



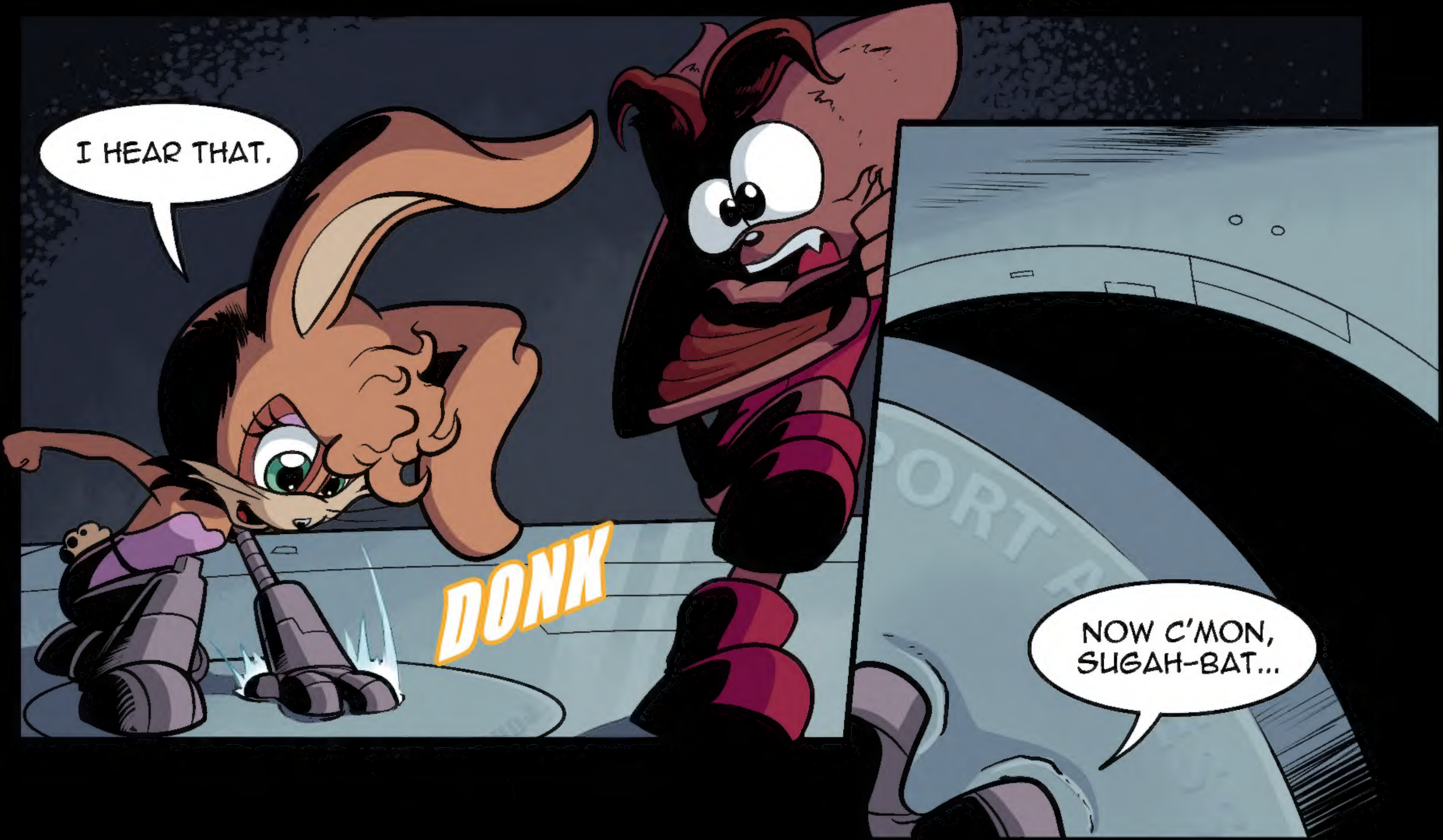
--SOMEHOW.

YOU KEPT A GOOD EAR
OUT FOR HOVERCRAFTS, GAVIN,
HELPED US MAKE IT THROUGH
THE SKIES NICE 'N' CLEAN.

AS A FELLOW
BIG-EARS, I'M
IMPRESSED.

AH, YES,
WELL...UM...

I SUPPOSE YOU
JUST HAVE TO USE WHAT
YOU'VE GOT, RIGHT...?



I HEAR THAT.

DONK

NOW C'MON,
SUGAH-BAT...



SEA3ON

"Spare Parts"

WRITTEN BY ERIC MASON
PENCILS & INKS BY TIM CAMPBELL
COLORS & LETTERING BY LAURA ADAMS
EDITED BY PAUL SCOTT
CHARACTERS OWNED BY DIC AND SEGA


...WE'VE GOT
WORK T'DO.

I, UH, STILL HAVE
TO WONDER IF THIS IS
AN APPROPRIATE FIRST
MISSION FOR ME AS PART
OF YOUR TEAM.

AW C'MON NOW,
SUGAH-BAT.

YOU MAY BE NEW
T'OUR TEAM BUT YOU
AIN'T NO NOVICE AS A
FREEDOM FIGHTER.

'SIDES, THIS OL' SCRAP
FACTORY'S BEEN IN THE
DARK FOR A LONG TIME.
A BAT LIKE YOU SHOULD
MAKE SEARCHIN' THROUGH IT
A WHOLE LOT EASIER.



AND YOU...ER...THE PRINCESS, I MEAN...

SHE THINKS THIS IS THE BEST PLACE TO GET, UH, WHAT WE WANT?

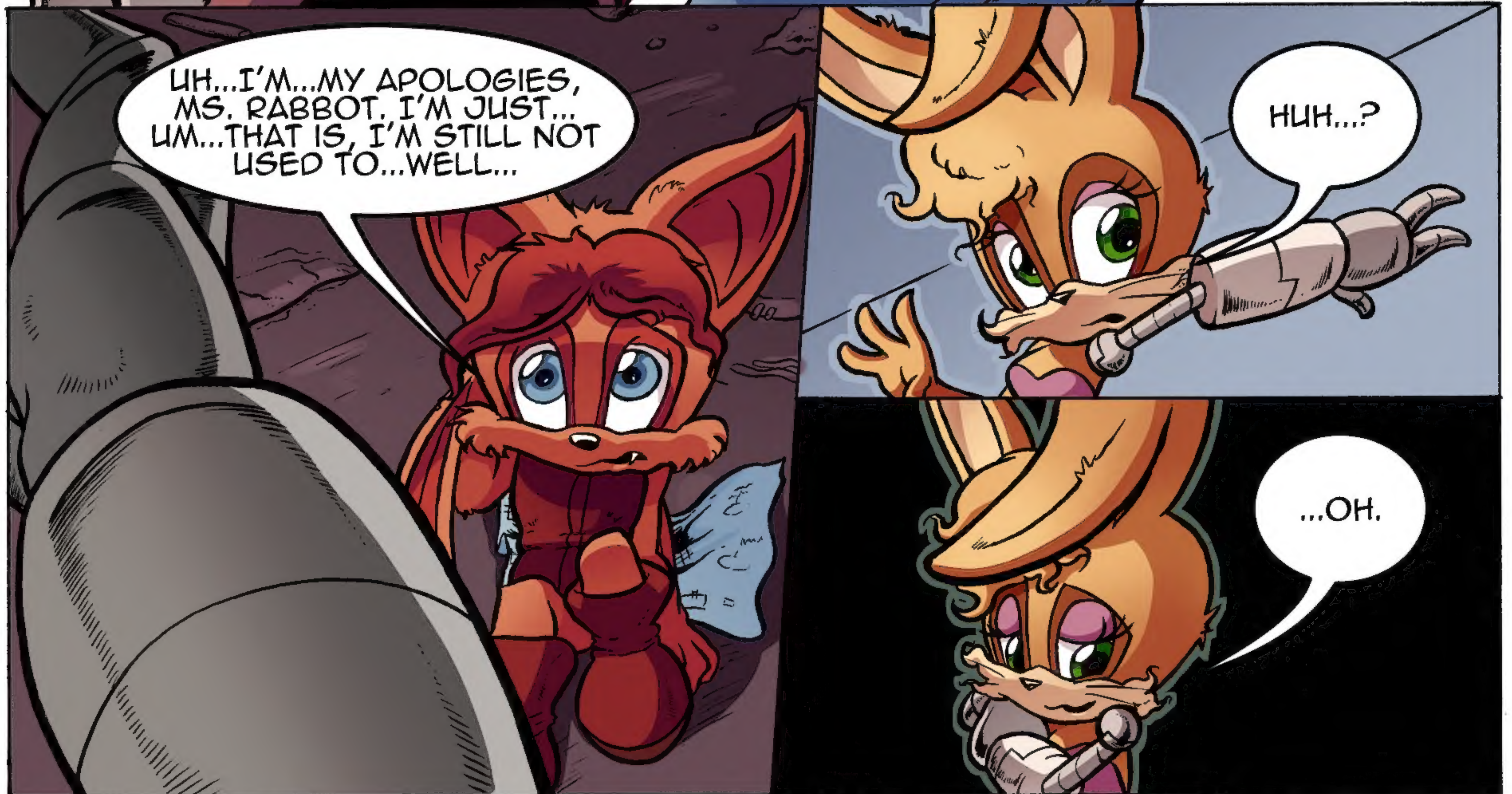
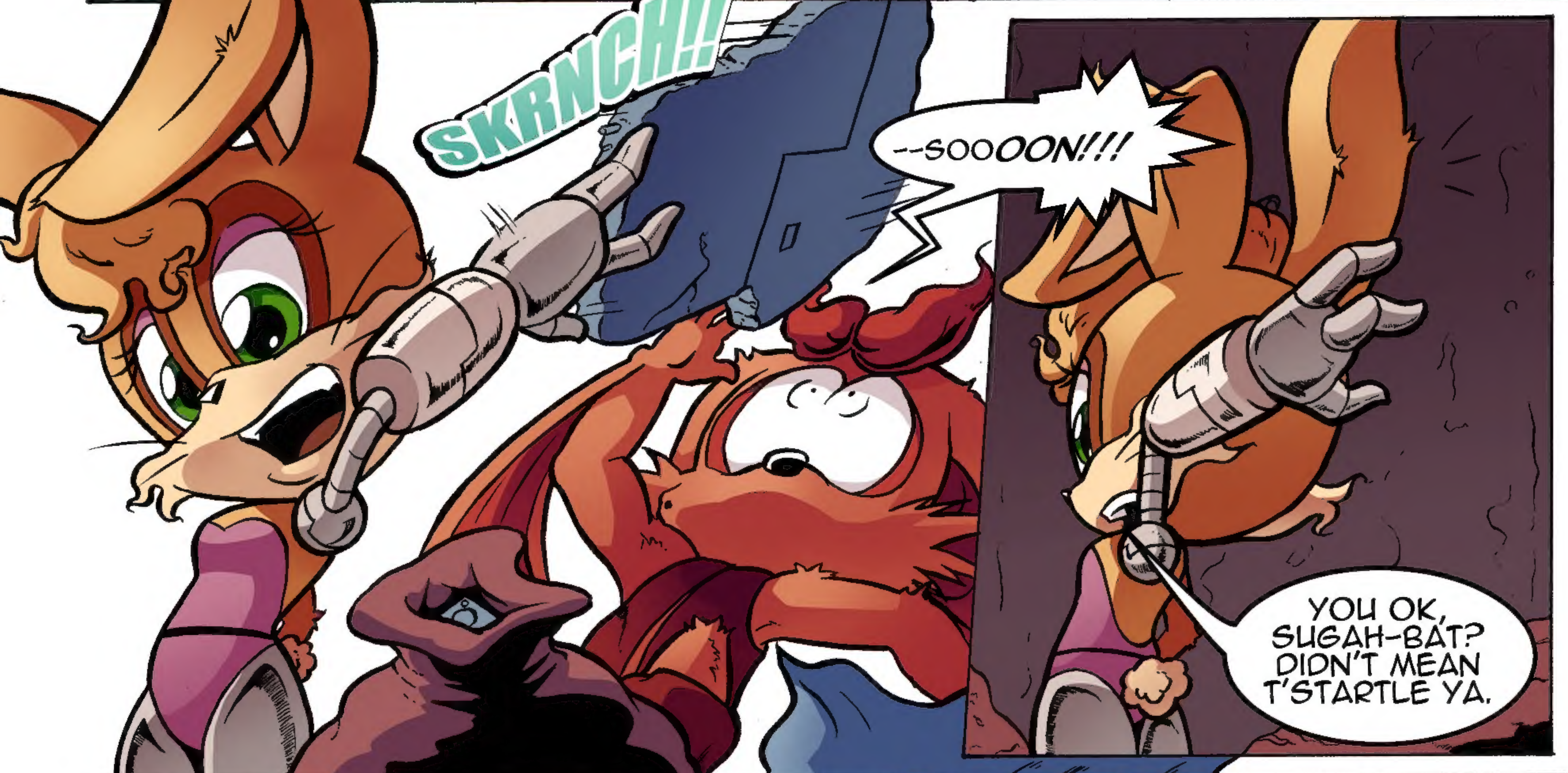
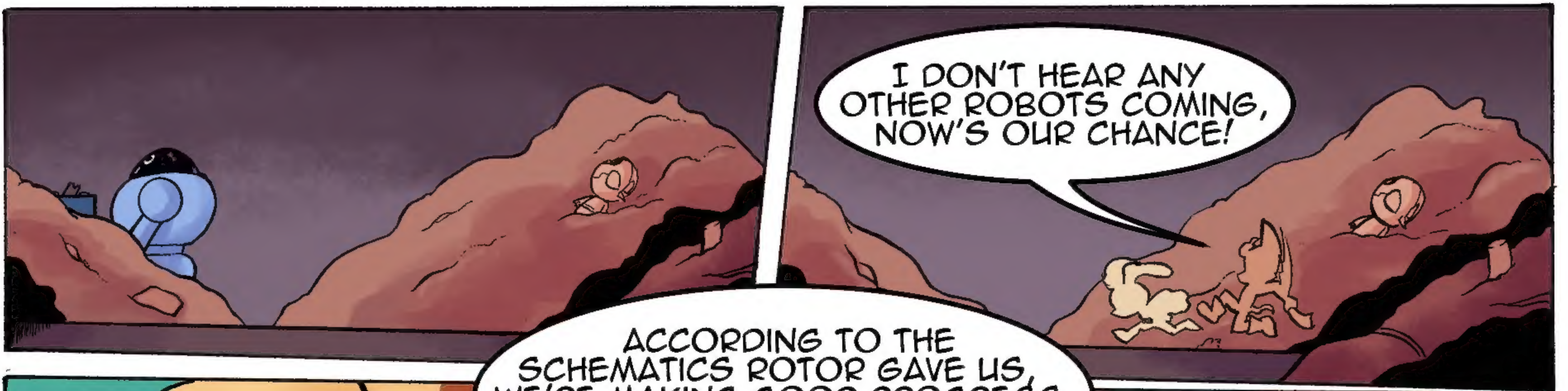
SALLY-GIRL SAYS IF WE RAID THE PARTS WE WANT FROM HERE, IT'S LESS LIKELY T'MAKE SNIVELY SUSPICIOUS.

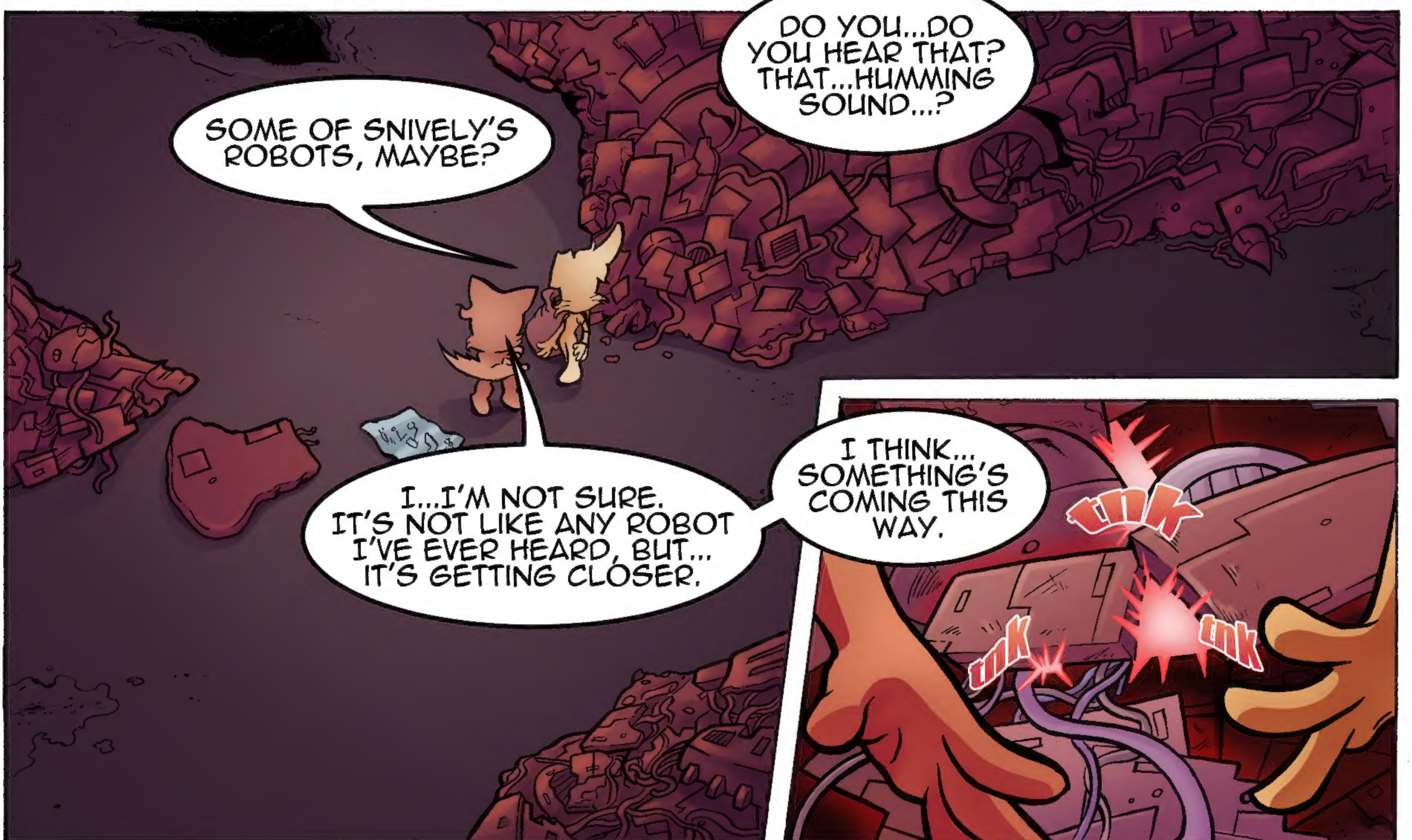
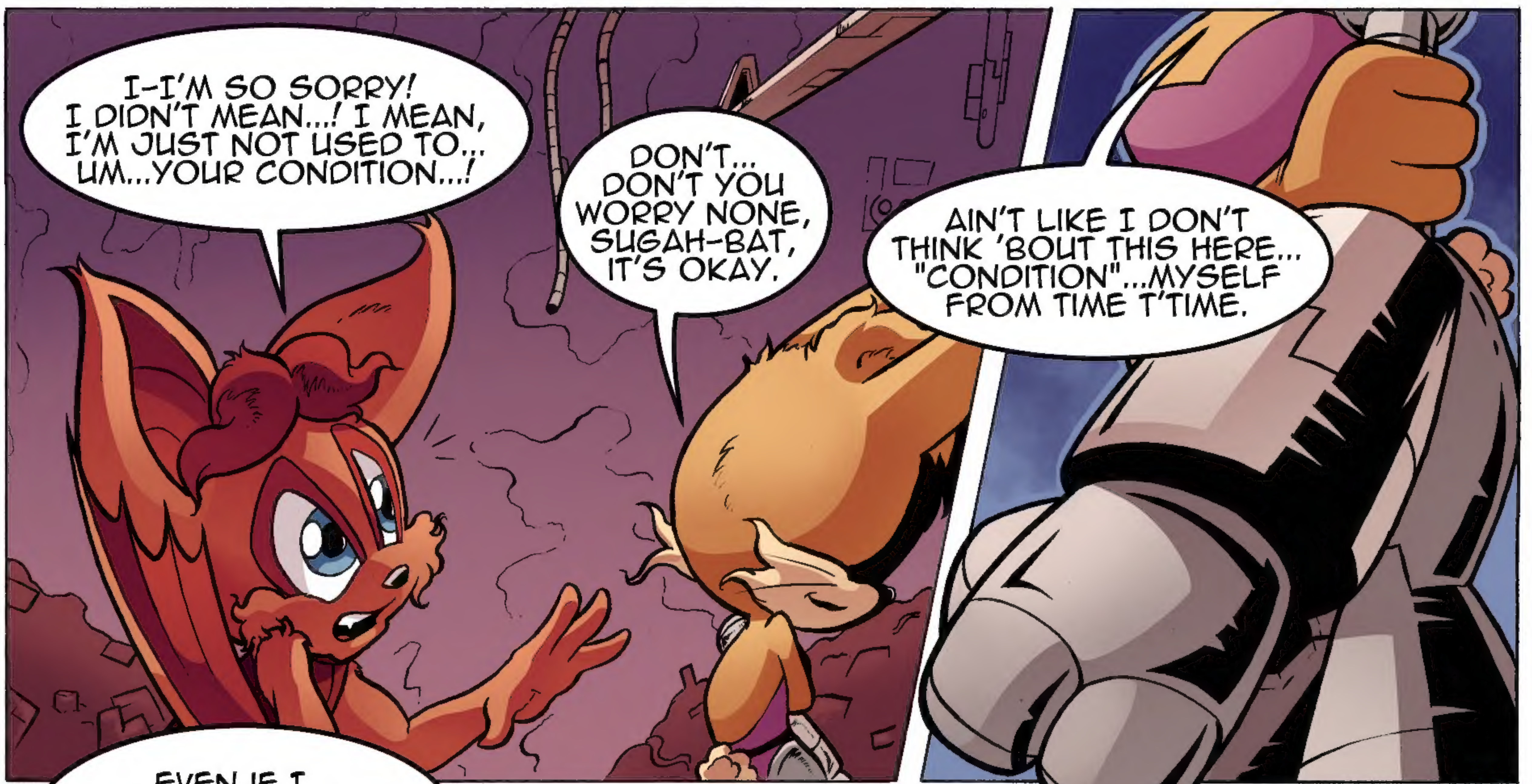
REMEMBER, WE DON'T WANT HIM KNOWIN' WE'RE GONNA BE FIXIN' UP HIS FANCY RESONATRIX SO WE CAN USE IT.

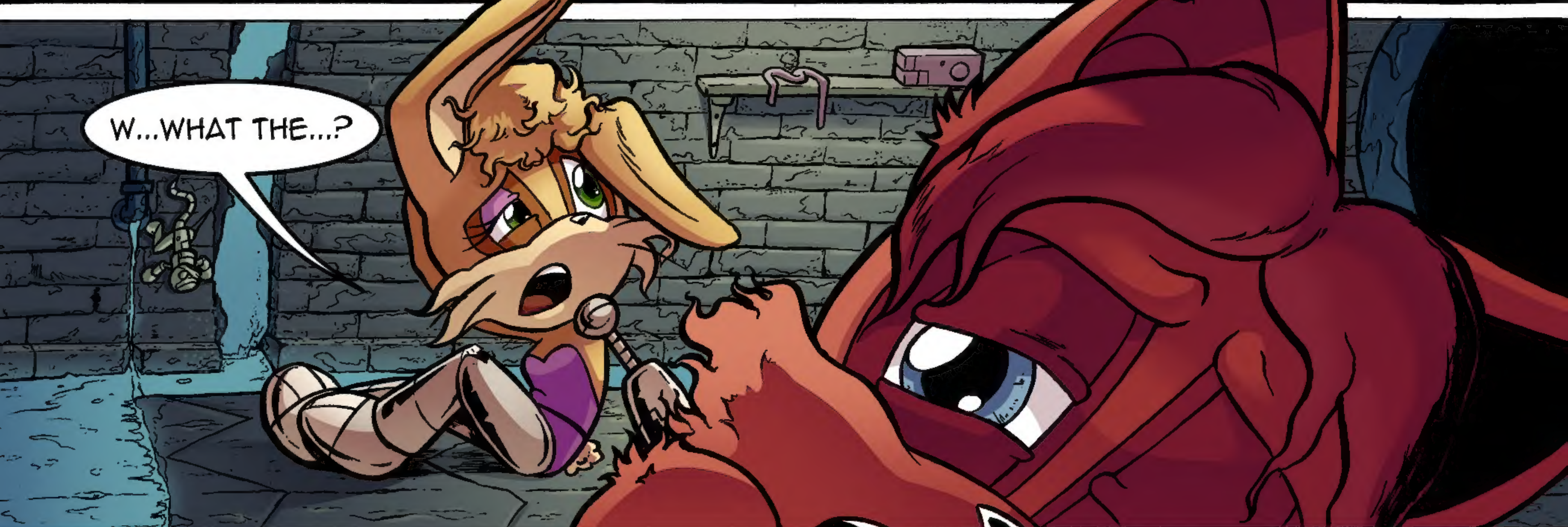
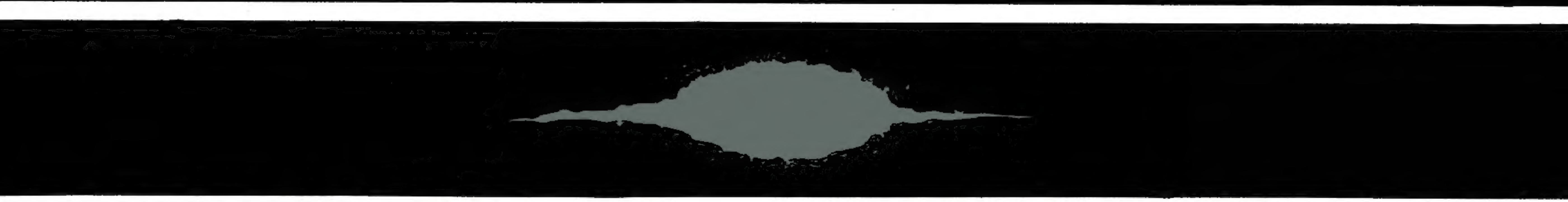
'SIDES, THIS SCRAP HEAP'S GOT A LOT LESS SECURITY THAN ANY O' ROBOTROPOLIS' FACTORIES.

READY T'DO IT TO IT, SUGAH-BAT?

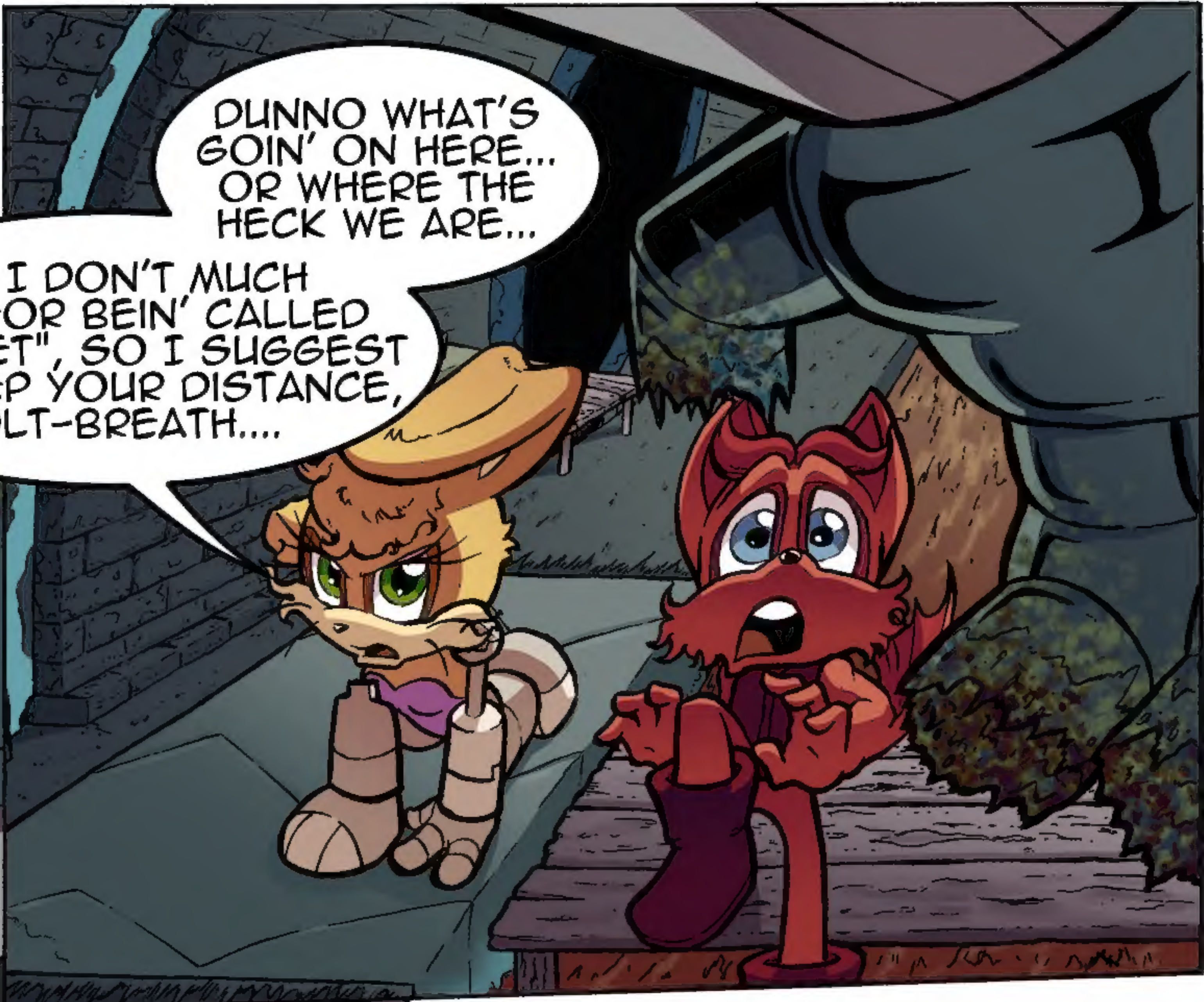
AS I'LL EVER BE, MS. RABBOT.







VOCALIZATION
CONFIRMED. ANALYSIS
INDICATES VITALS
STABLE. TARGETS AWAKE.
REPEAT: TARGETS AWAKE.



DUNNO WHAT'S
GOIN' ON HERE...
OR WHERE THE
HECK WE ARE...

BUT I DON'T MUCH
CARE FOR BEIN' CALLED
A "TARGET", SO I SUGGEST
YOU KEEP YOUR DISTANCE,
BOLT-BREATH...



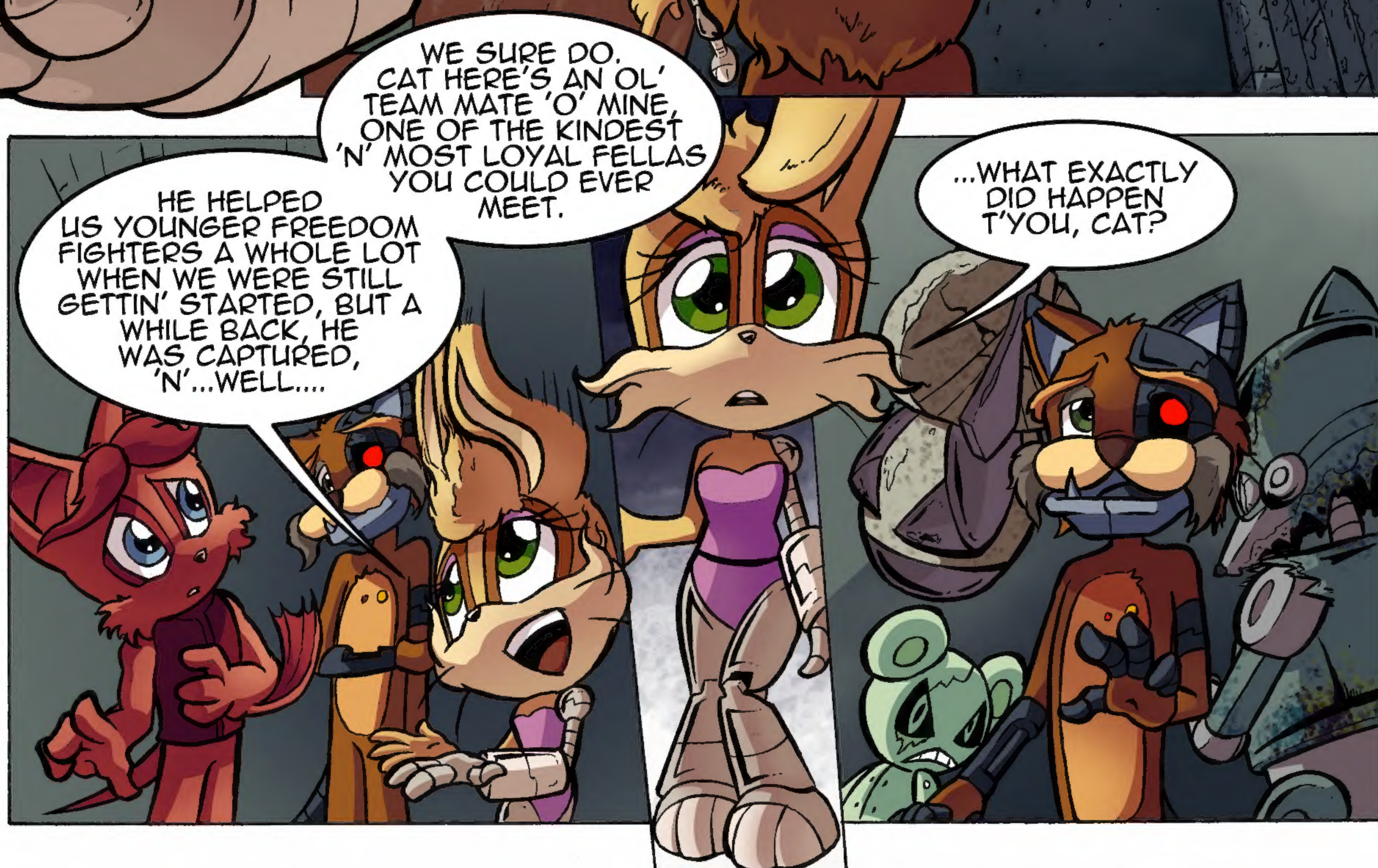
TARGET'S VOCAL
INFLECTION INDICATES
HOSTILITY. PREPARING
TO ENGAGE.

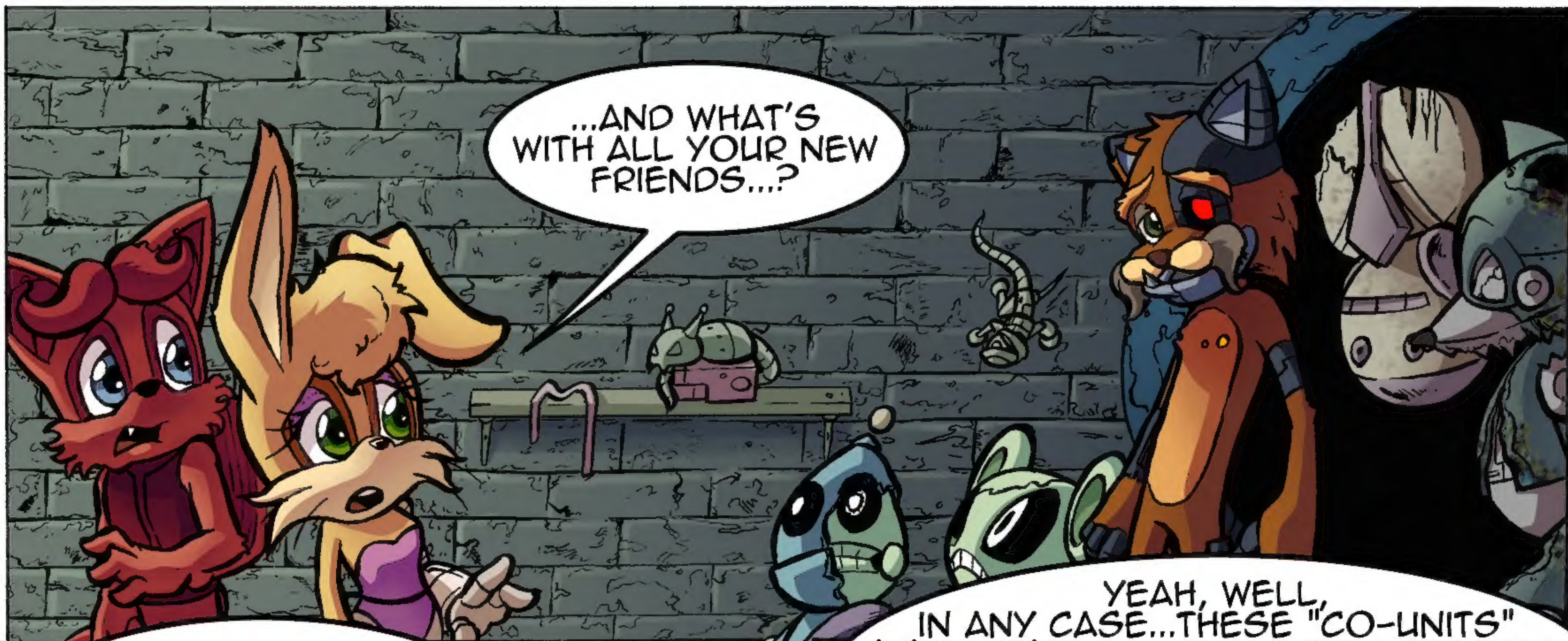
NOW NOW,
RUSTBUCKET, NO
NEED TO GET TESTY
WITH THE LADY.
AFTER ALL...



...WE'RE ALL
FRIENDS HERE.

...OH MY
STARS...!





...AND WHAT'S WITH ALL YOUR NEW FRIENDS...?

YEAH, WELL, IN ANY CASE...THESE "CO-UNITS" 'N' I, WE'RE ALL BIRDS OF A FEATHER DOWN HERE. FAILED EXPERIMENTS OF ROBOTNIK'S HE THREW AWAY WITHOUT GIVING US ANOTHER THOUGHT.

AH, THAT'S QUITE THE STORY, BUNNIE. 'THOUGH I THINK RUSTBUCKET HERE MIGHT DISAGREE WITH YOUR USE 'O' THE WORD "FRIEND".

AFFIRMATIVE. "CO-UNITS" MORE ACCURATE TERM.



"EXPERIMENTS" ...? Y'MEAN...?

YUP...THAT GOES FOR ME TOO. Y'SEE...

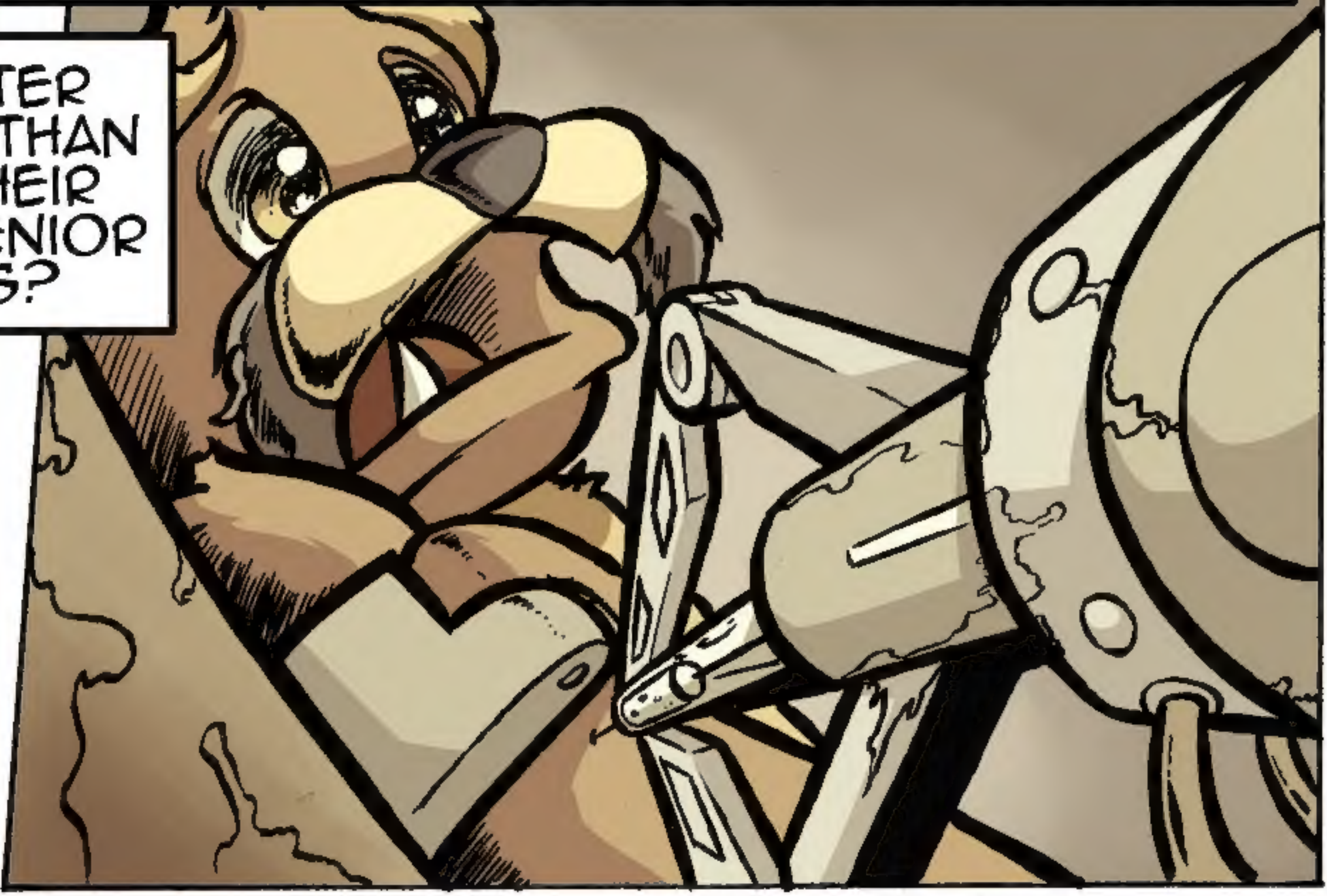


...WHEN ROBOTNIK GOT HIS HANDS ON ME, HE SAW AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.

HE WAS TRYING TO EXPAND ON SIR CHARLES' ORIGINAL ROBOTICIZER, TO CREATE A SORT OF "SLEEPER AGENT" WHO COULD INFILTRATE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

THE IDEA, NEAR AS I COULD FIGURE, WAS TO PUT THE ROBOTICIZER NANITES INTO ME MANUALLY, THEN ACTIVATE THE LATER ONCE I'D INFILTRATED KNOTHOLE VILLAGE.

WHAT BETTER CANDIDATE THAN ONE OF THEIR TRUSTED SENIOR MEMBERS?



ONLY PROBLEM WAS, HE COULDN'T
GET THE NANITES T'Stabilize...
ALL THE INJECTION DID WAS MESS
UP THE TRANSFORMATION.



HE THOUGHT THE
PROCESS KILLED ME...FOR A
WHILE THERE, I DID TOO. BUT INSTEAD,
I FOUND MYSELF ALIVE... 'N' DOWN
HERE. WITH MY "CO-UNITS."



...MY STARS
...CAT, I....

AWW,
NO WORRIES,
BUNNIE M'DEAR.
I'VE MANAGED
T'DO ALRIGHT FOR
MYSELF DOWN
HERE.



"NO WORRIES" INACCURATE.
CONCERNS STILL EXIST
ON MULTIPLE SUBJECTS,
INCLUDING CURRENT TARGETS.

I'M THINKING
YOU CAN GUESS
FOR YOURSELF WHY
RUSTBUCKET GOT
FLUSHED DOWN
HERE.





...WHERE IS "HERE"?

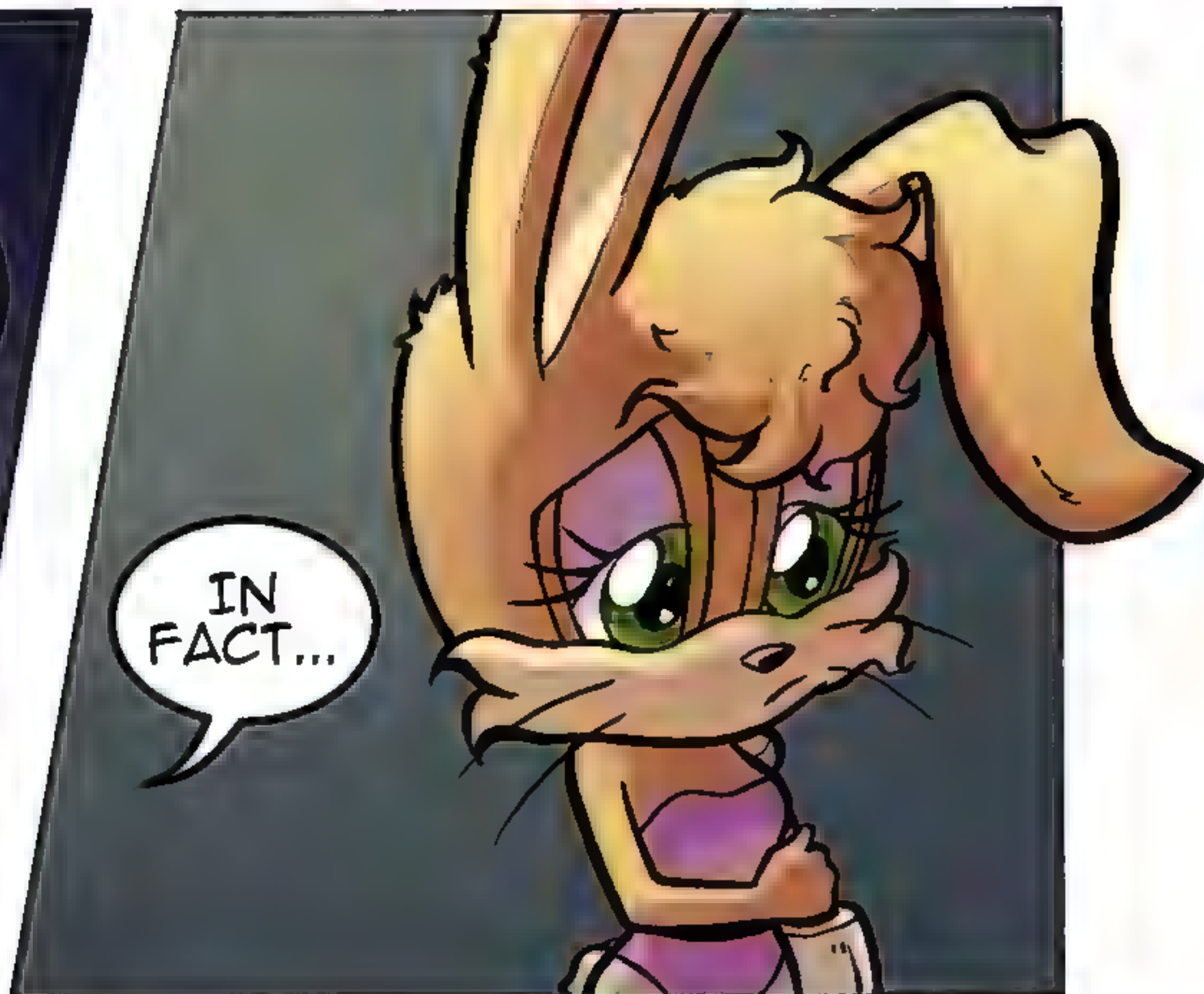
PART OF THE ROBOTROPOLIS SEWER SYSTEM. ME 'N' THE OTHERS FOUND OUR WAY HERE A WHILE BACK 'N' SET UP SHOP.

DIDN'T TAKE US LONG T'LEARN IT WAS CONNECTED TO THE OLD SCRAP METAL DEPOT, AND WE'VE BEEN NIPPING WHAT WE NEED FROM THERE EVER SINCE.



WHAT EXACTLY IS IT YOU NEED?

OH, JUST A FEW THINGS TO KEEP OUR PARTS IN WORKING ORDER, MOSTLY. THOUGH...THERE IS ONE LITTLE "SIDE-PROJECT" I'VE BEEN WORKING ON.



IN FACT...



...THAT'S WHY I HAD RUSTBUCKET BRING YOU DOWN HERE.

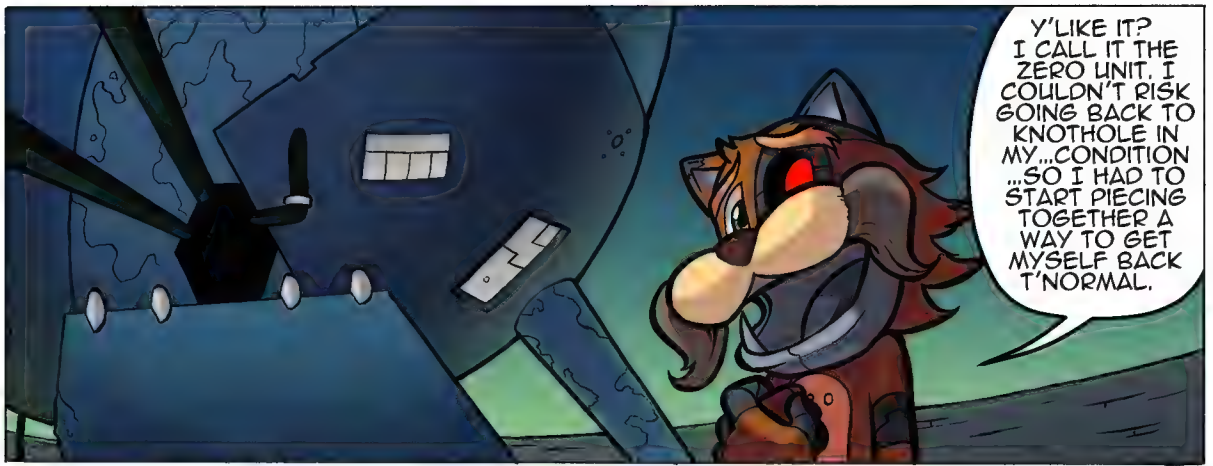
YOU MEAN...
YOU SENT
THIS THING
AFTER US?

WELL I COULDN'T
EXACTLY *INVITE* YOU TWO
DOWN HERE, NOW COULD I?
DIDN'T WANT TO RISK ROBOTNIK
FINDING OUT I WAS STILL
ALIVE, EITHER.

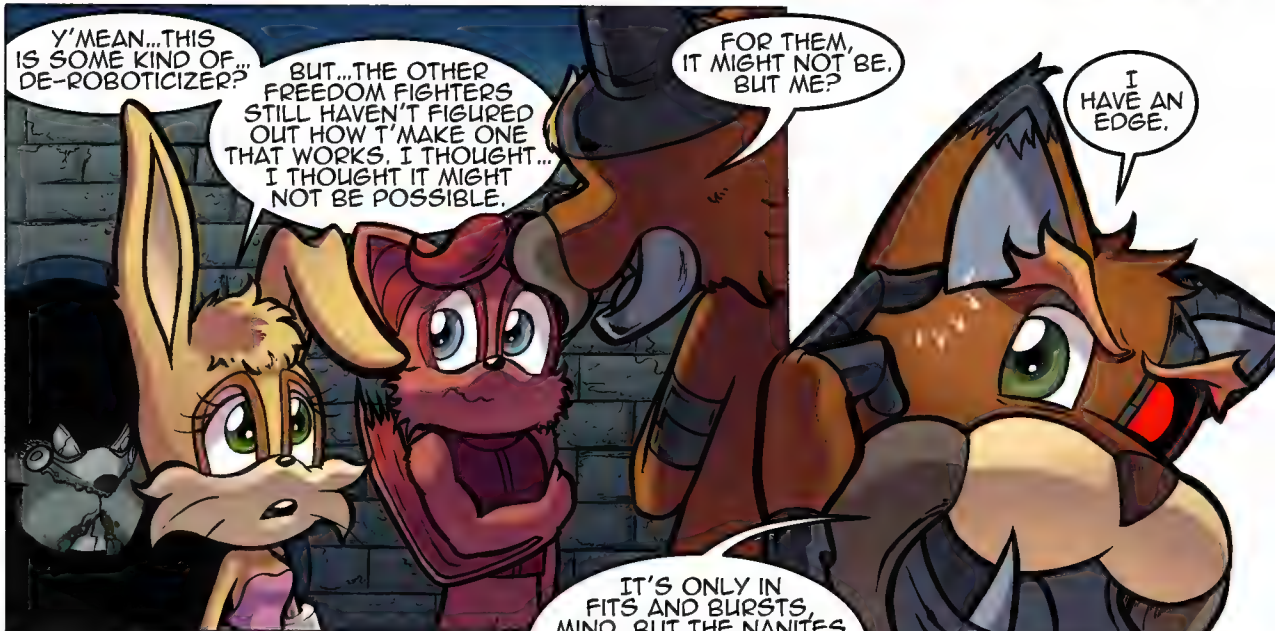
NOT
WHEN I'M SO
CLOSE.

OH MY
STARS....





Y'LIKE IT?
I CALL IT THE
ZERO UNIT. I
COULDN'T RISK
GOING BACK TO
KNOTHOLE IN
MY...CONDITION
...SO I HAD TO
START PIECING
TOGETHER A
WAY TO GET
MYSELF BACK
T'NORMAL.



Y'MEAN...THIS
IS SOME KIND OF...
DE-ROBOTICIZER?

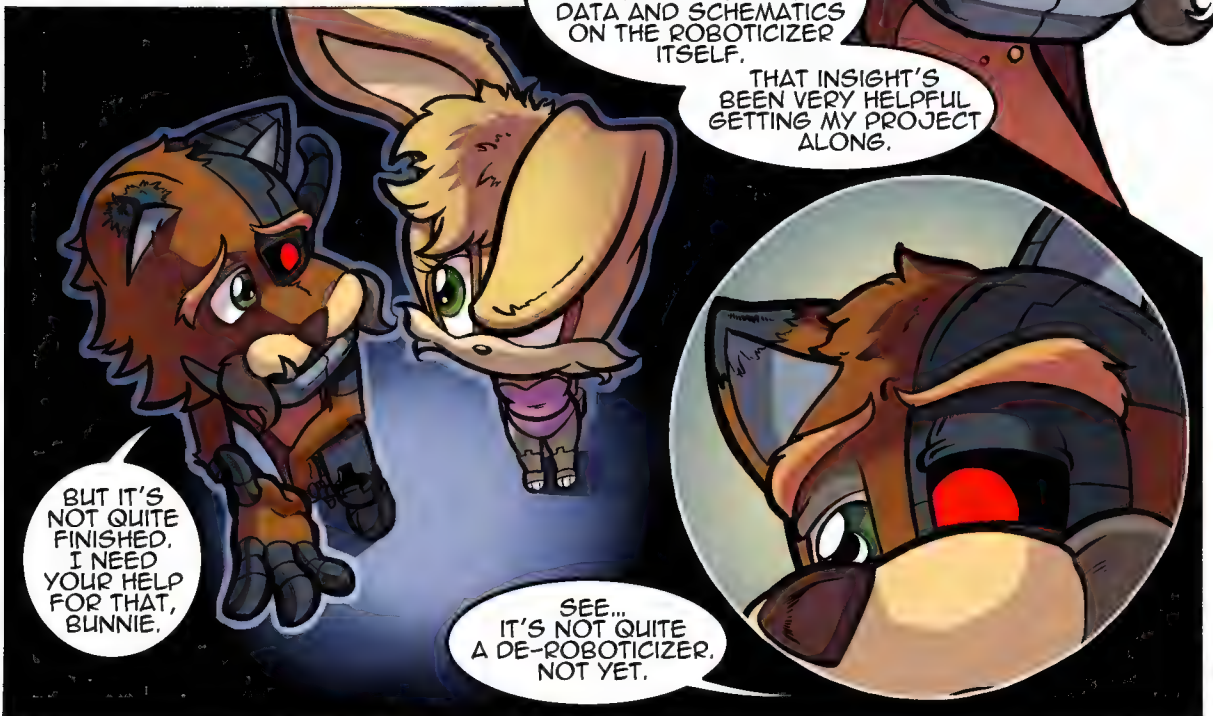
BUT...THE OTHER
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED
OUT HOW T'MAKE ONE
THAT WORKS. I THOUGHT...
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT
NOT BE POSSIBLE.

FOR THEM,
IT MIGHT NOT BE.
BUT ME?

I
HAVE AN
EDGE.

IT'S ONLY IN
FITS AND BURSTS,
MIND, BUT THE NANITES
LET ME SEE INTRICATE
DATA AND SCHEMATICS
ON THE ROBOTICIZER
ITSELF.

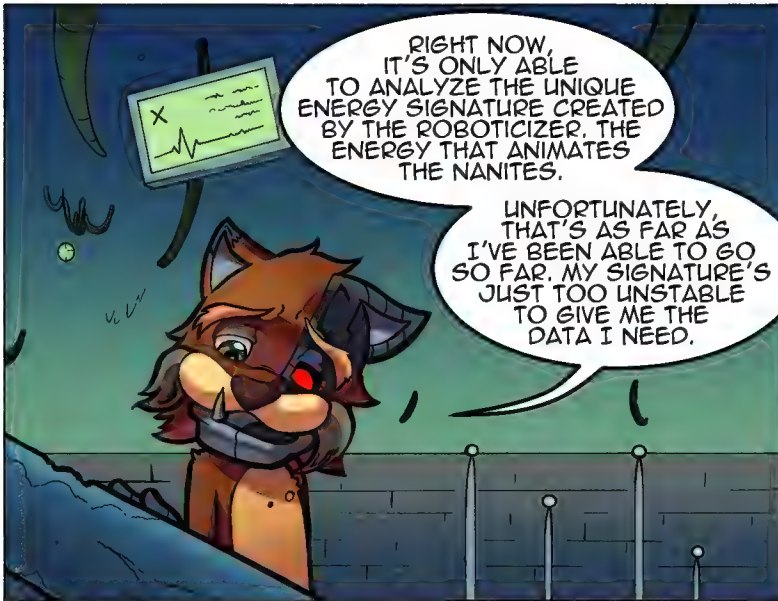
THAT INSIGHT'S
BEEN VERY HELPFUL
GETTING MY PROJECT
ALONG.



BUT IT'S
NOT QUITE
FINISHED.
I NEED
YOUR HELP
FOR THAT,
BUNNIE.

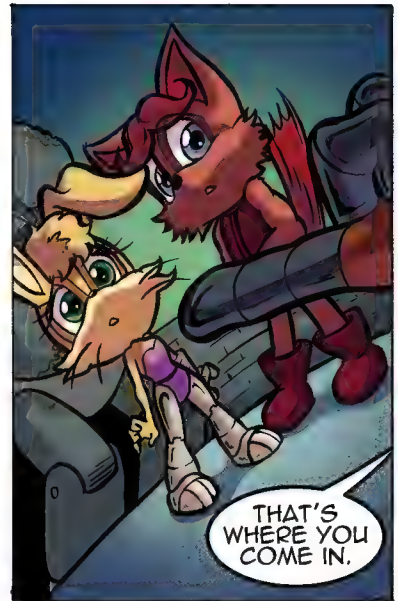
SEE...
IT'S NOT QUITE
A DE-ROBOTICIZER.
NOT YET.





RIGHT NOW,
IT'S ONLY ABLE
TO ANALYZE THE UNIQUE
ENERGY SIGNATURE CREATED
BY THE ROBOTICIZER. THE
ENERGY THAT ANIMATES
THE NANITES.

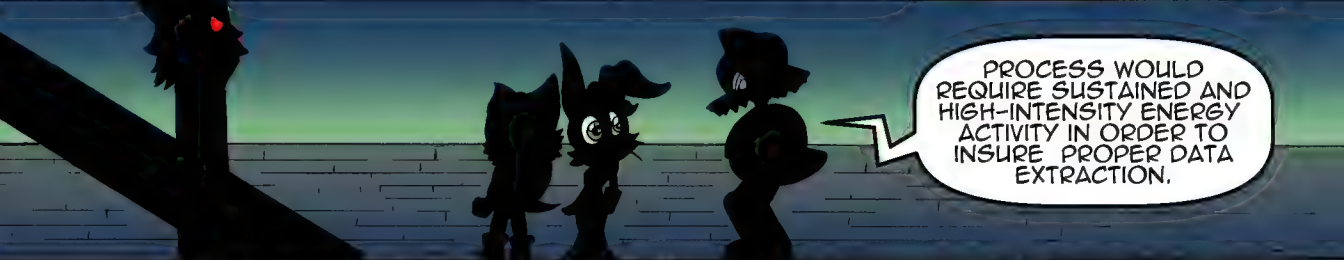
UNFORTUNATELY,
THAT'S AS FAR AS
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO GO
SO FAR. MY SIGNATURE'S
JUST TOO UNSTABLE
TO GIVE ME THE
DATA I NEED.



THAT'S
WHERE YOU
COME IN.

TARGET ONE
"BUNNIE RABBIT"
POSSESSES STABLE ENERGY
SIGNATURE. USE OF DEVICE
ON SUBJECT "BUNNIE RABBIT"
WOULD ALLOW ACCURATE
DATAFEED.

ACCURATE DATAFEED
COULD BE USED TO
PROGRAM ZERO UNIT
TO SUCCESSFULLY
DISABLE AND REMOVE
ROBOTICIZER
NANITES.

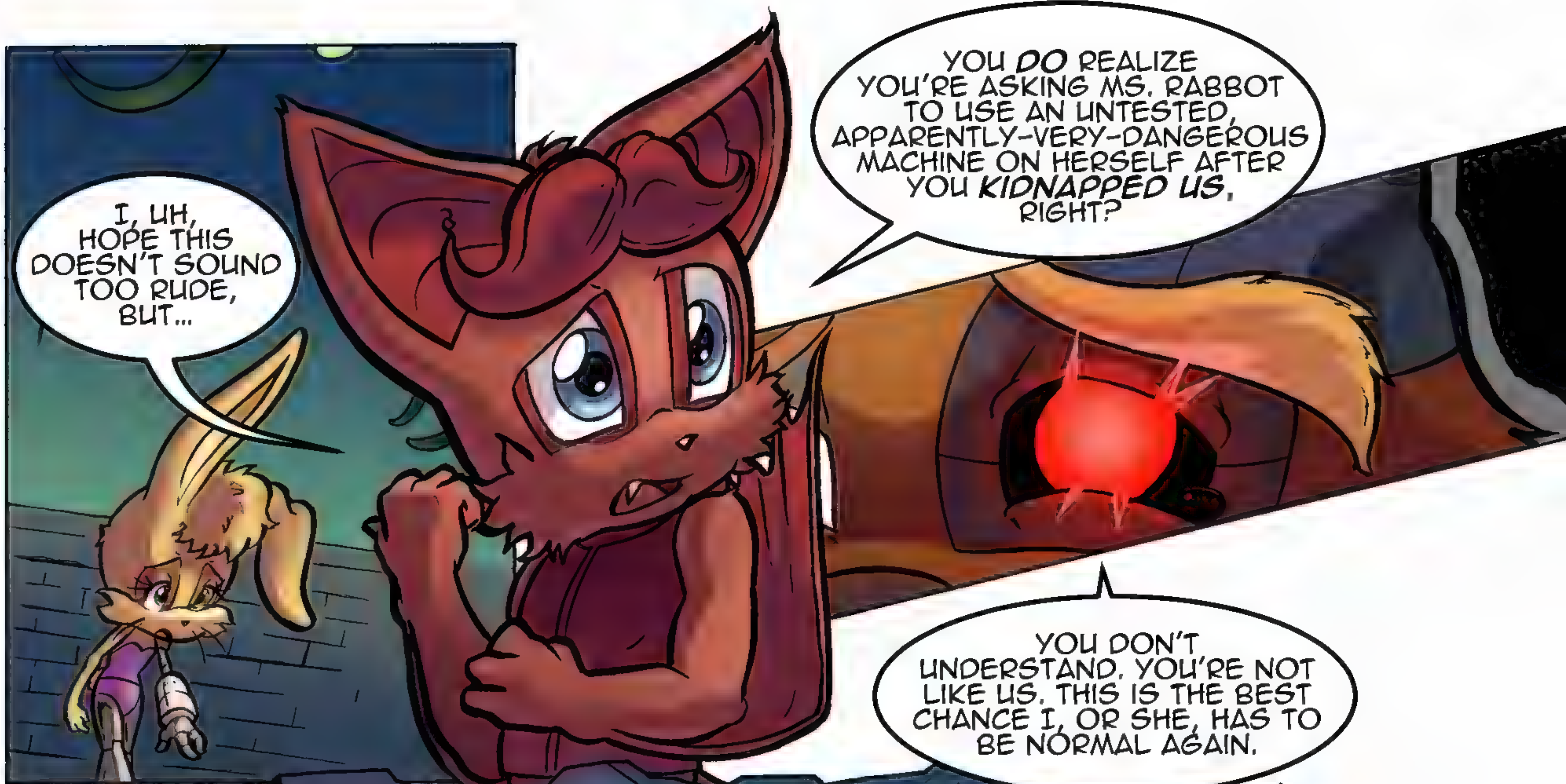


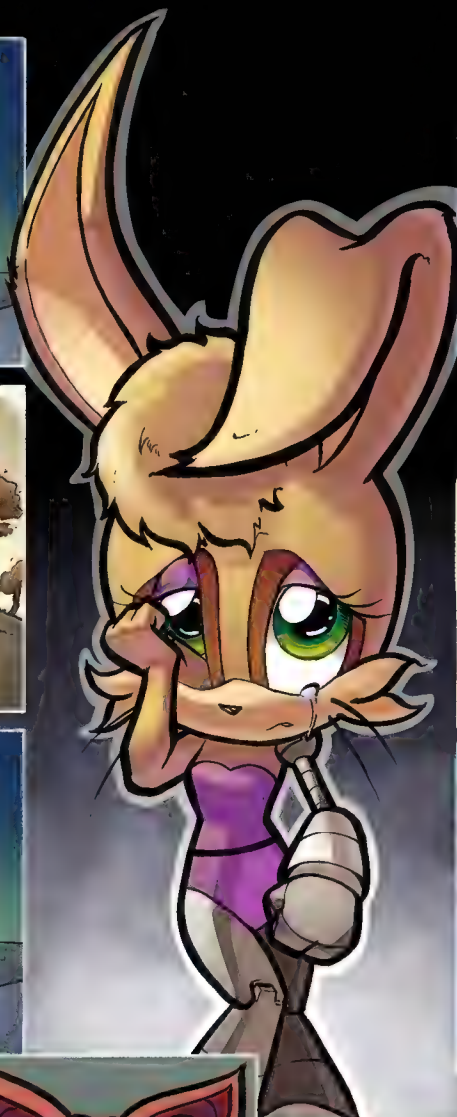
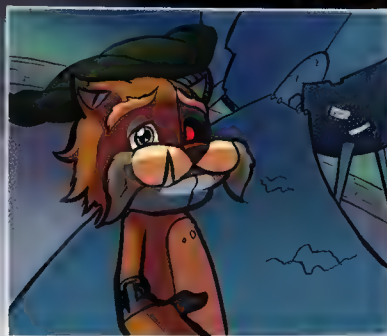
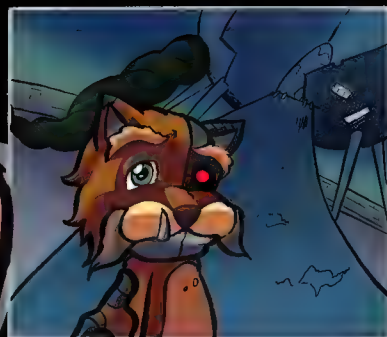
PROCESS WOULD
REQUIRE SUSTAINED AND
HIGH-INTENSITY ENERGY
ACTIVITY IN ORDER TO
INSURE PROPER DATA
EXTRACTION.



...IT'S NOT A...
PLEASANT
EXPERIENCE.

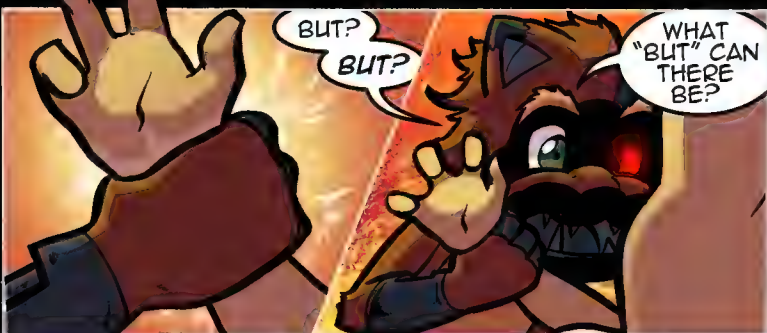
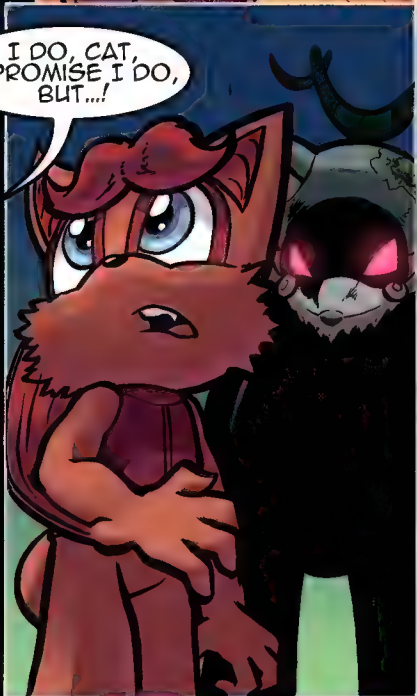






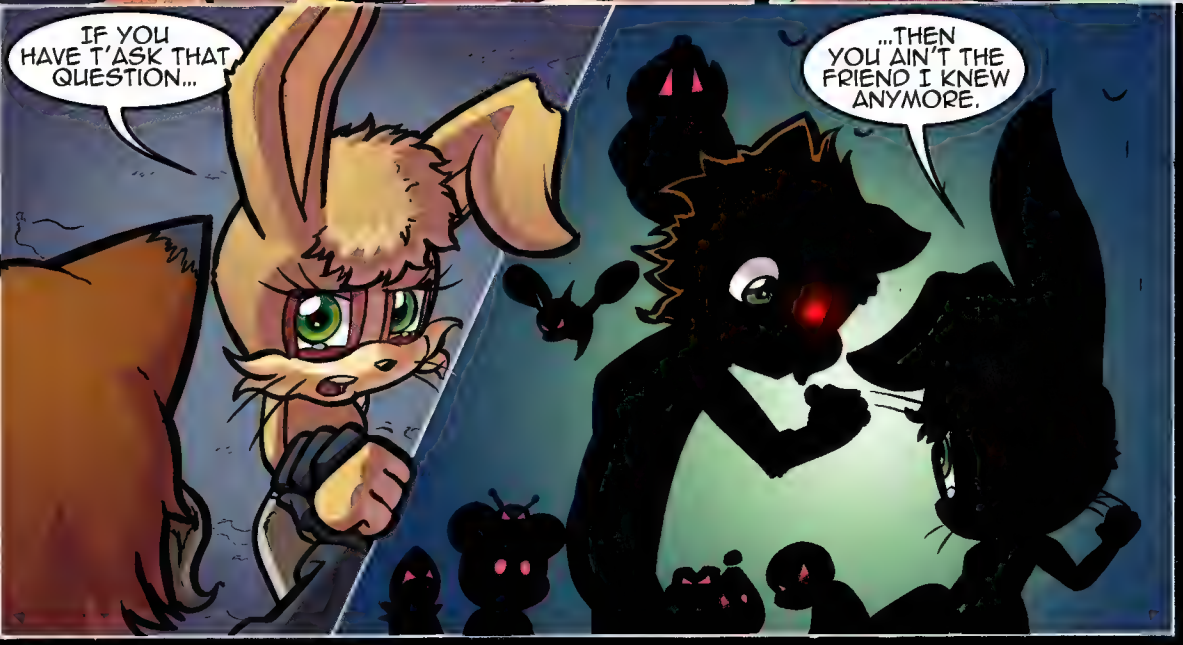
CAT...I....

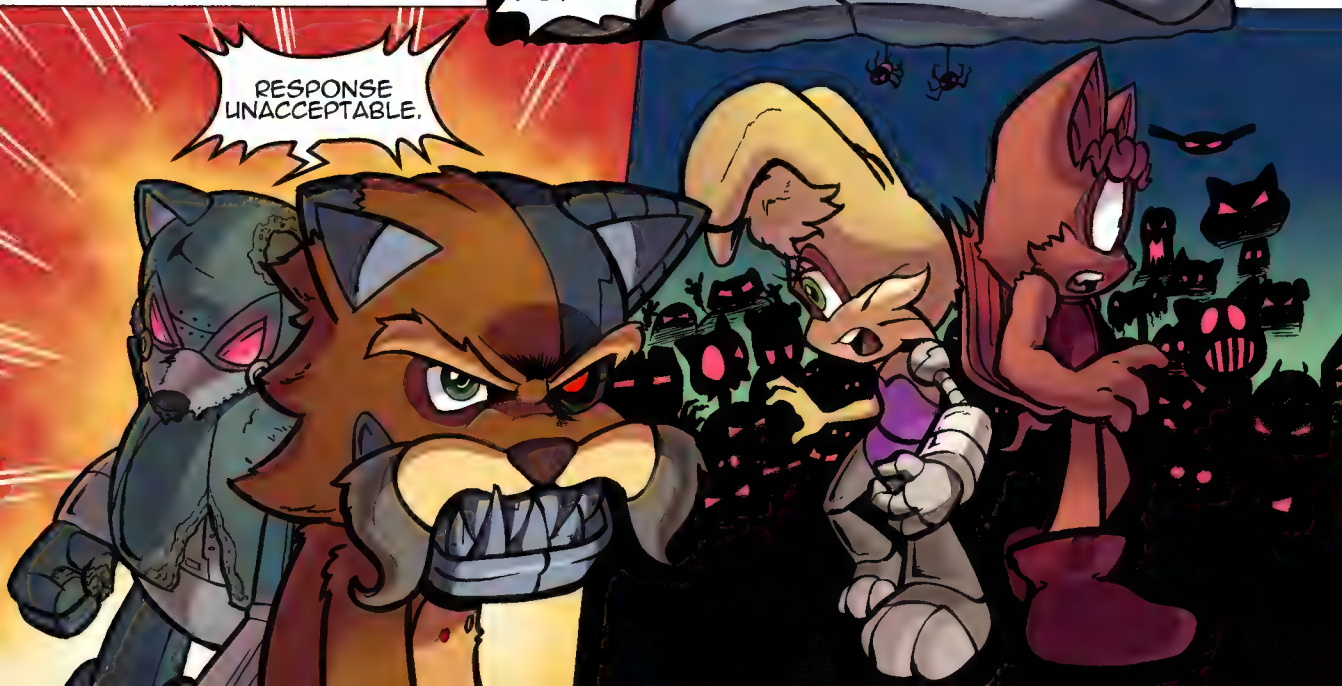
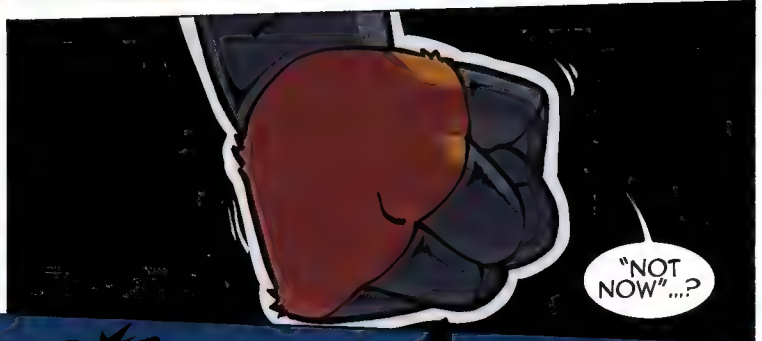
...I CAN'T.



IF YOU HAVE T' ASK THAT QUESTION...

...THEN YOU AIN'T THE FRIEND I KNEW ANYMORE.







CAT...
IT DON'T GOTTA
BE LIKE THIS....

NEGATIVE,
SUBJECT
"BUNNIE RABBIT"
MUST SUBMIT.

GAVIN...
WHEN I SAY
SO...

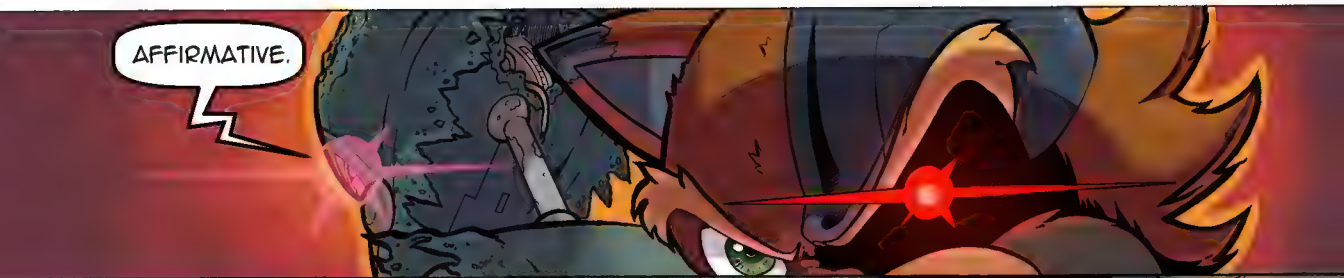


RUN!!!



GET UP!
GET UP, RUSTBUCKET,
WE HAVE T'CATCH
HER!

KILL THE
OTHER ONE IF
YOU HAVE TO, BUT
BRING BUNNIE BACK.
GET! UP!
NOW!



AFFIRMATIVE.



I THOUGHT YOU SAID THIS "CAT" WAS YOUR FRIEND?!?

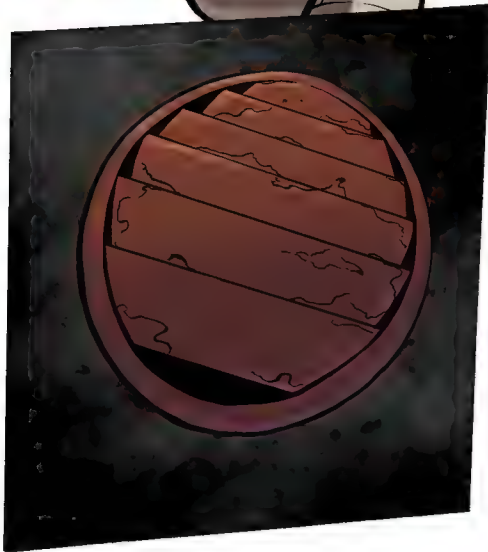
HE IS! I KNOW HE IS! THIS... THIS IS JUST...!

IT'S WHAT BEIN' ROBOTICIZED MADE HIM...!

THUD!



WHAT-EVER THE CASE, WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!



AGREED.

CLANG!!



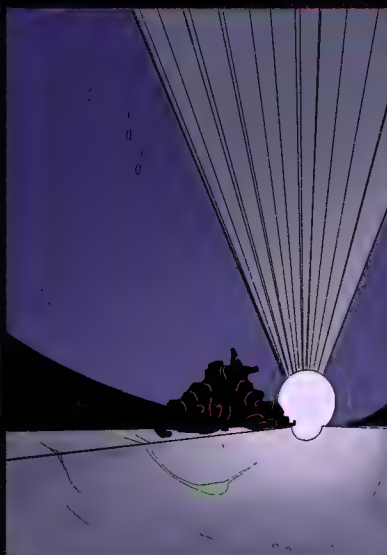
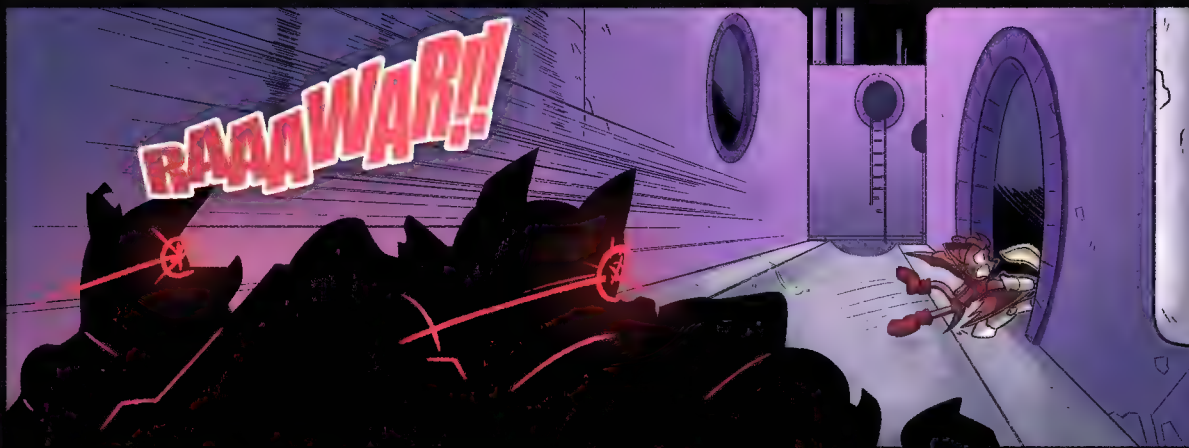
YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW TO GET TO KNOTHOLE FROM HERE...?

I...DON'T SUPPOSE



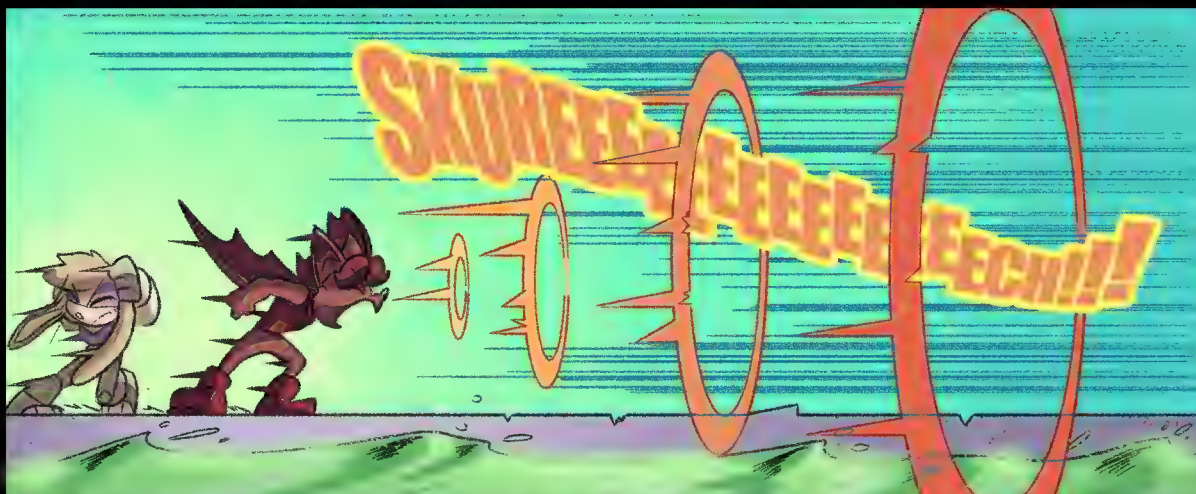
NOPE.

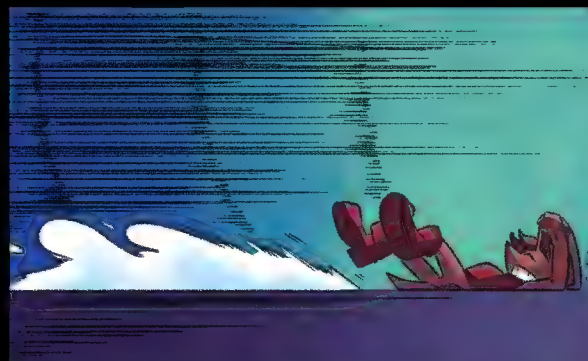
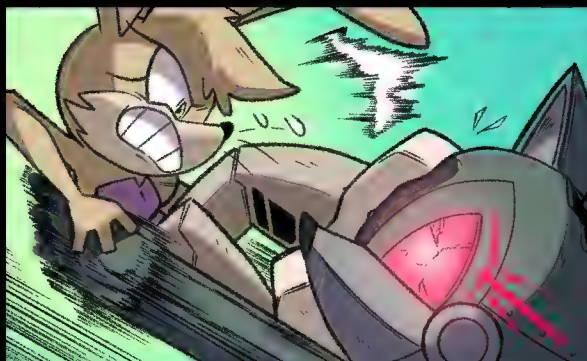


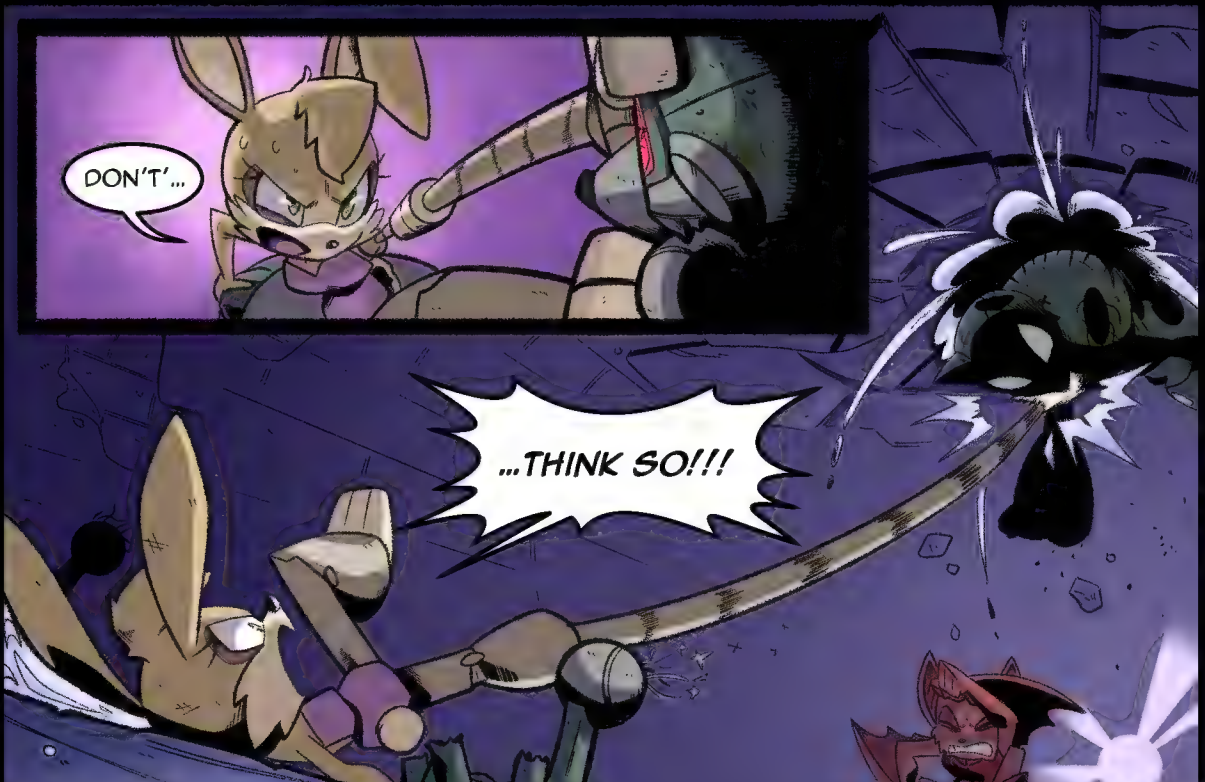


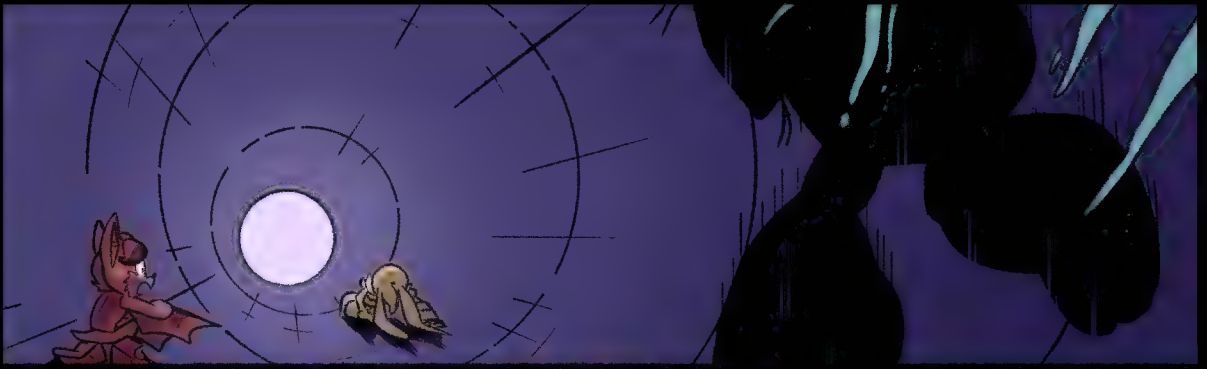
WISH IT WEREN'T
S'DARK IN HERE,
THOUGH...GONNA MAKE
FINDIN' ANY WAY
OUT TOUGH....

DON'T
IMAGINE
THAT'S BOUGHT
US A LOT O'
TIME, BUT IT'S
SOMETHIN',
AT LEAST.











AH...!
I THINK
WE'RE ALMOST
THERE.



G-GOOD...
NOW
T'MAKE
SURE...



...WE AIN'T
GOT ANY MORE
COMPANY!



OPTIC UNIT
DAMAGED. VISUALS
COMPROMISED.

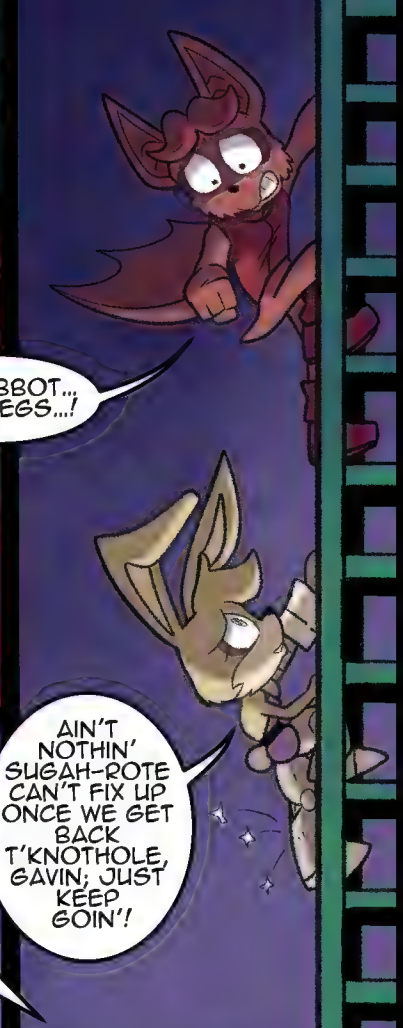


MS. RABBIT...
YOUR LEGS...!

SHRA-K!



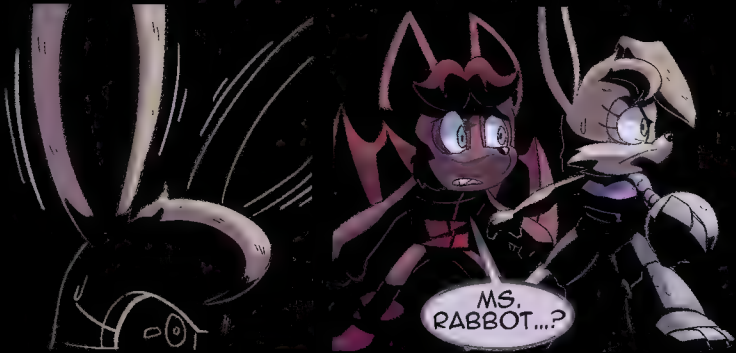
COMPENSATING...
COMPENSATING....



AIN'T
NOTHIN'
SUGAH-ROTE
CAN'T FIX UP
ONCE WE GET
BACK
T'KNOTHOLE,
GAVIN; JUST
KEEP
GOIN'!

I THINK WE'RE
GETTING CLOSE...
IT FELT LIKE THERE WAS
SOME KIND OF EXIT OR
DOOR ON THE OTHER
END OF THIS TUNNEL
HERE.

HOPEFULLY
IT TAKES US
TOP-SIDE.



MS.
RABBOT...?

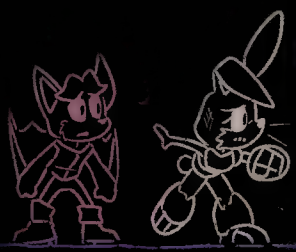


BUNNIE

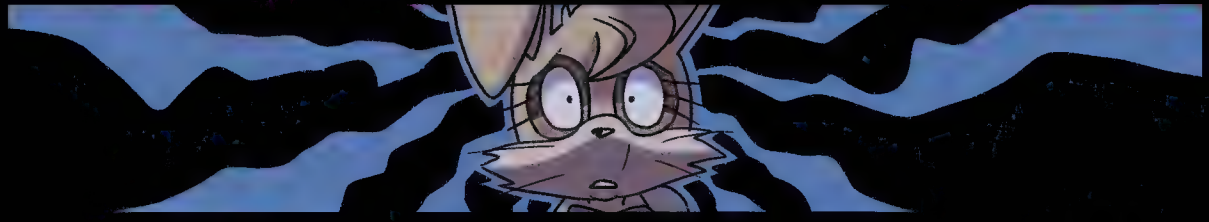


**I CAN'T
LET YA GO**

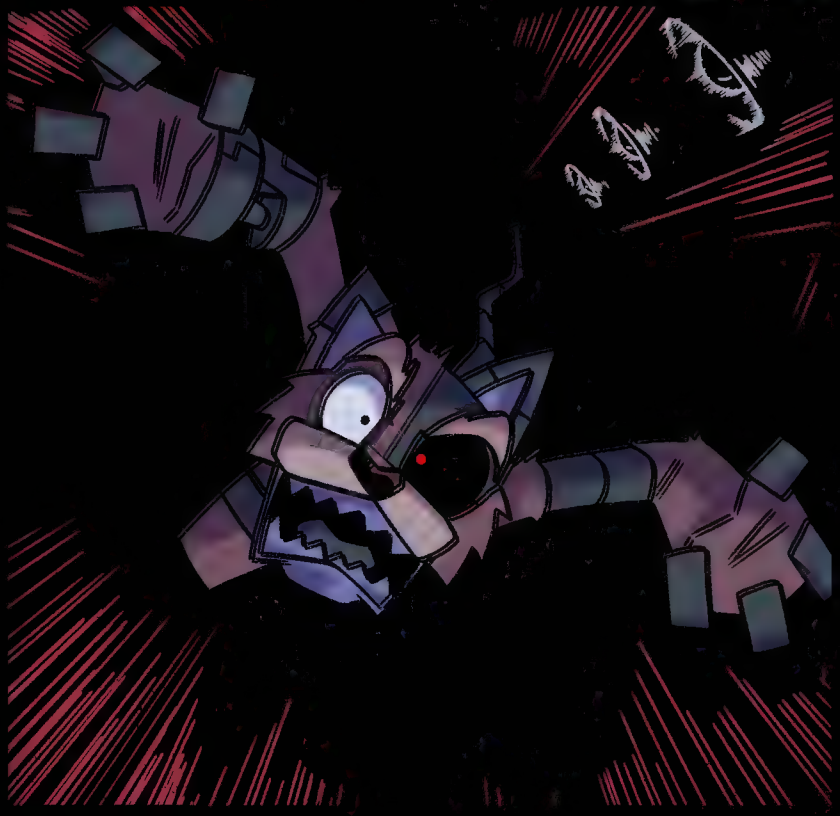
YES
Y'CAN, CAT.
WE CAN HELP YA,
I PROMISE,
WE JUST NEED
T'FIND ANOTHER
WAY...

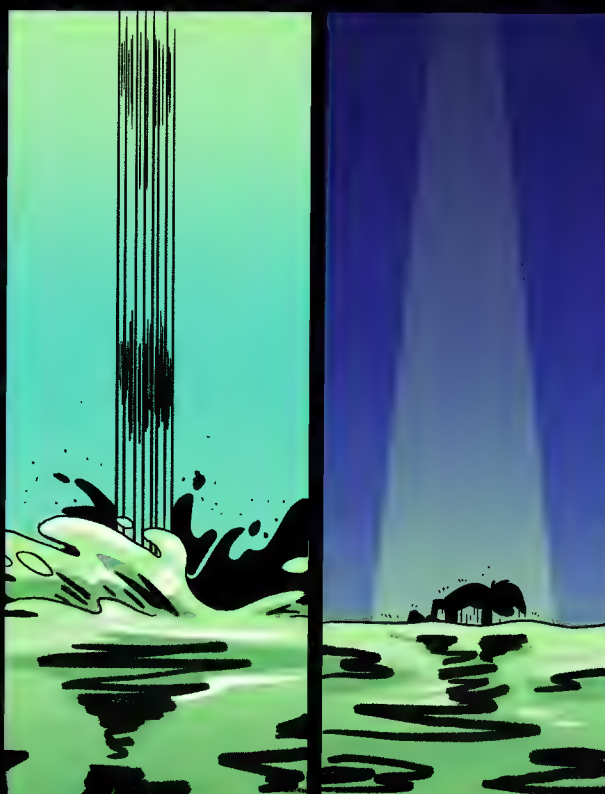
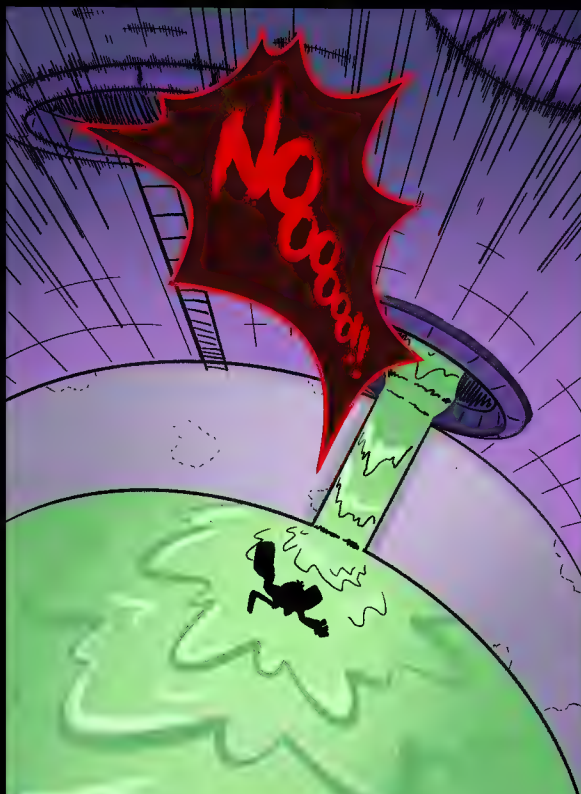
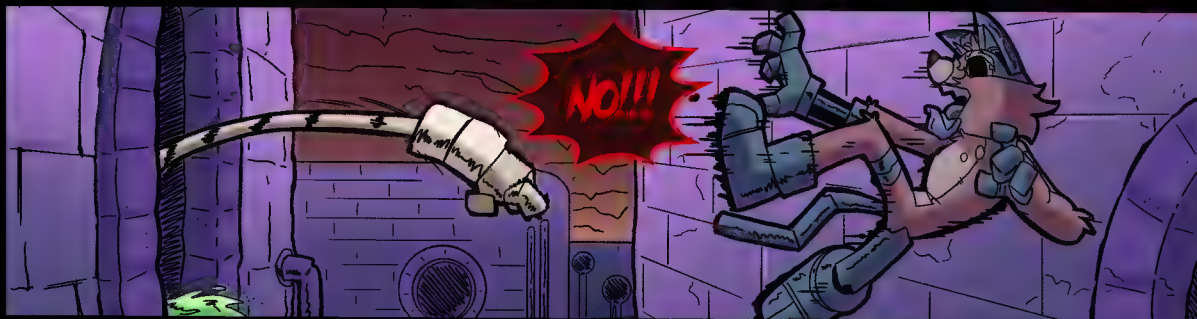
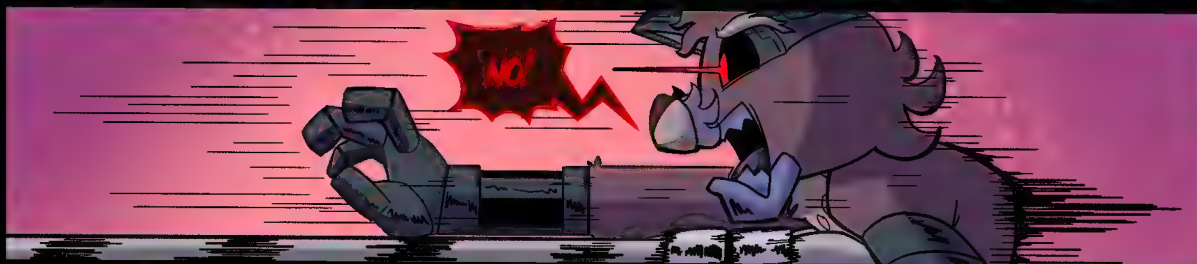
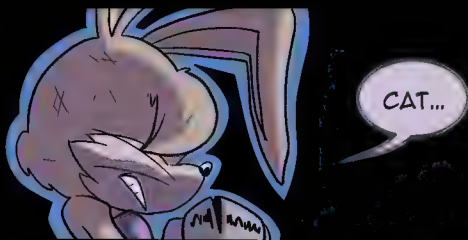


ANOTHER WAY
Y' MEAN LIKE
HOW YOUR FRIENDS
CURED YOU?

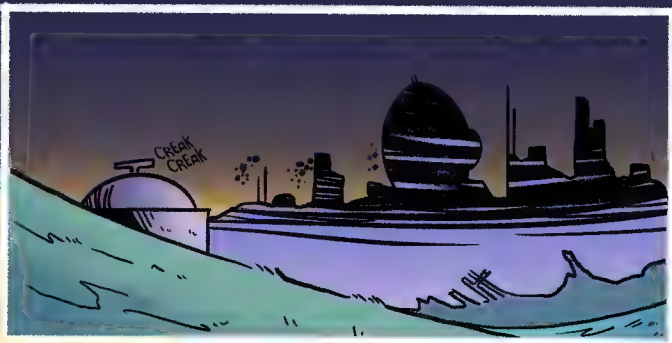


NO BUNNIE
NO OTHER WAY
NO MORE TALKING



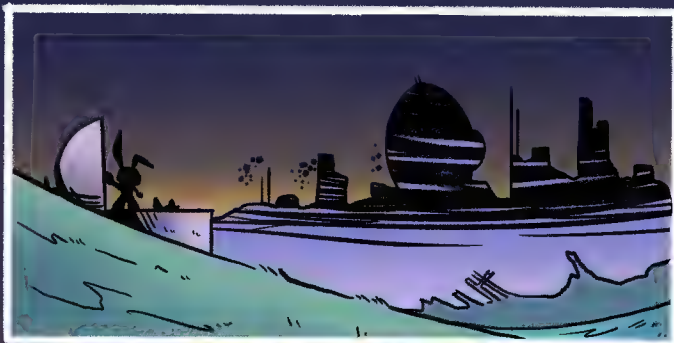






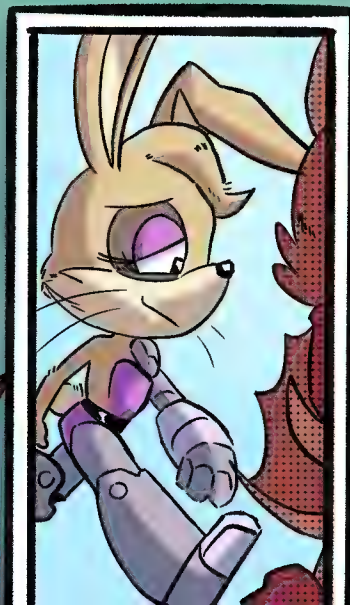
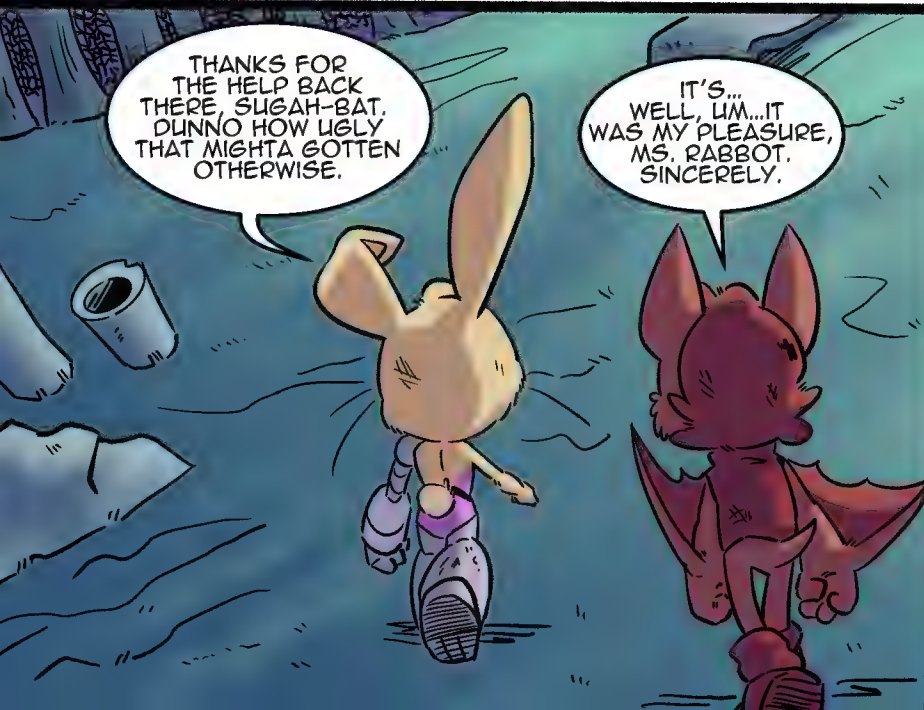
OH THANK GOODNESS...WE MADE IT! WITH LUCK, THOSE ROBOTS WON'T RISK BEING DISCOVERED BY FOLLOWING US UP HERE, BUT WE SHOULD PROBABLY GET GOING ANYWAY.

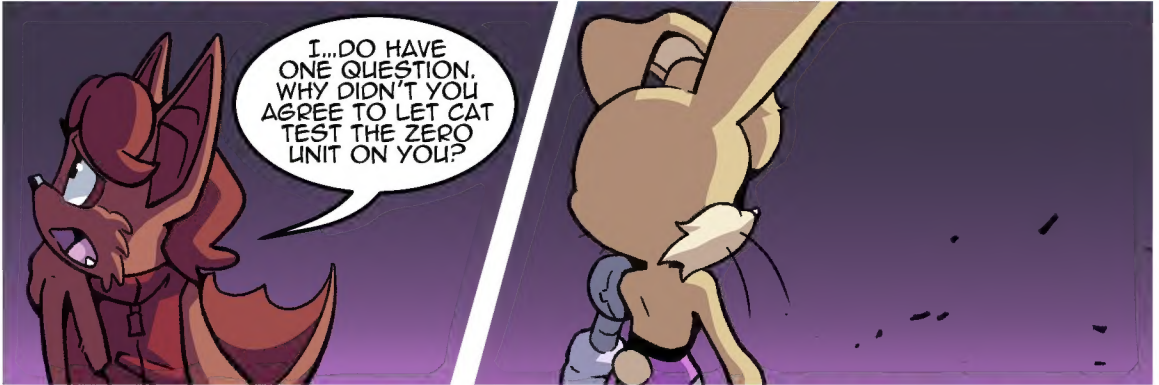
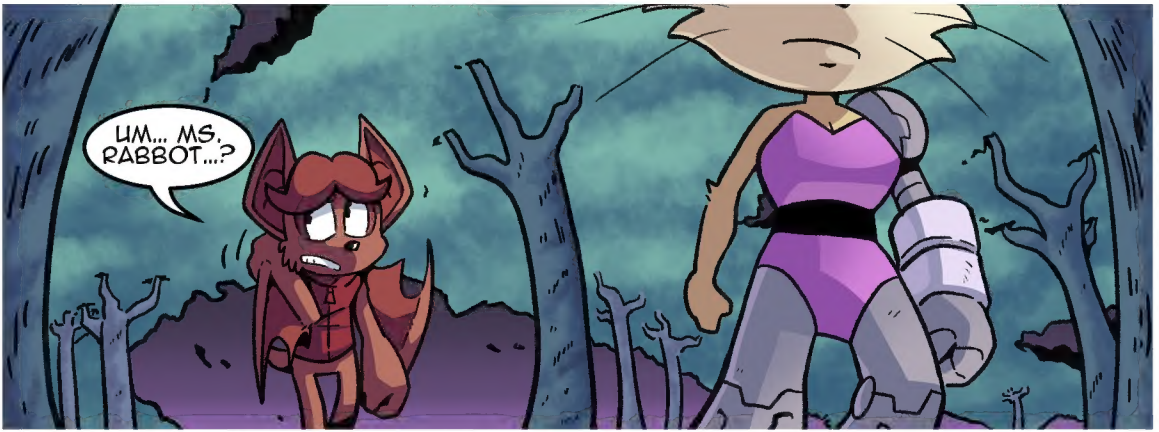
LIKE, RIGHT NOW.

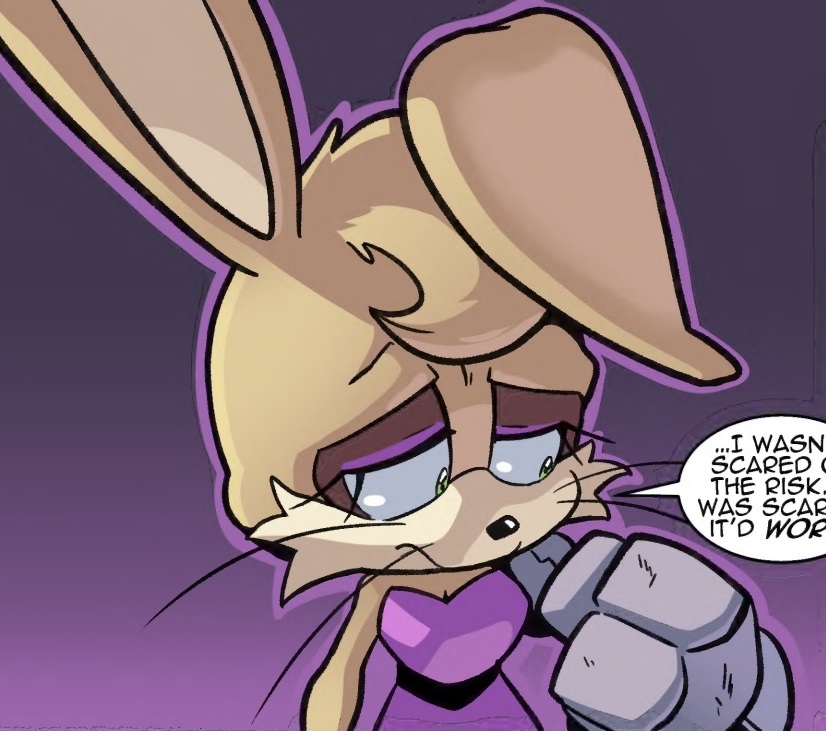


THANKS FOR THE HELP BACK THERE, SUGAH-BAT. DUNNO HOW UGLY THAT MIGHTA GOTTEN OTHERWISE.

IT'S... WELL, UM...IT WAS MY PLEASURE, MS. RABBIT. SINCERELY.







...I WASN'T
SCARED O'
THE RISK. I
WAS SCARED
IT'D *WORK*.



USED T'BE,
I'D GIVE *ANYTHING*...
DO ANYTHING...JUST
T'HAVE MY OWN BODY
BACK, BUT...

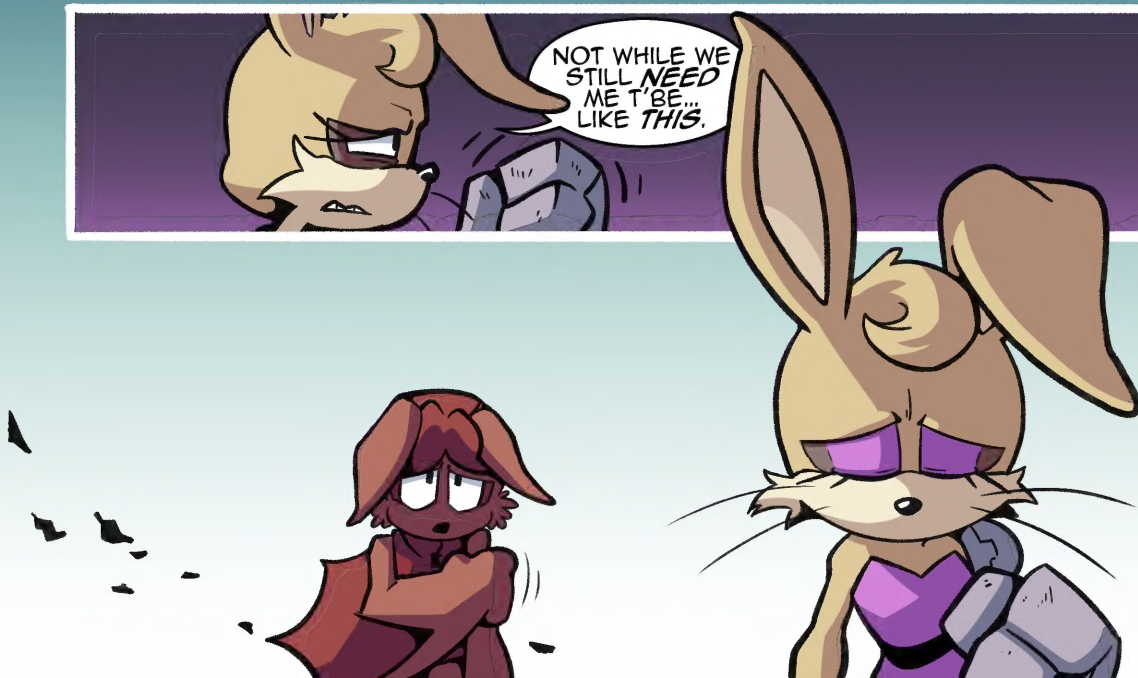


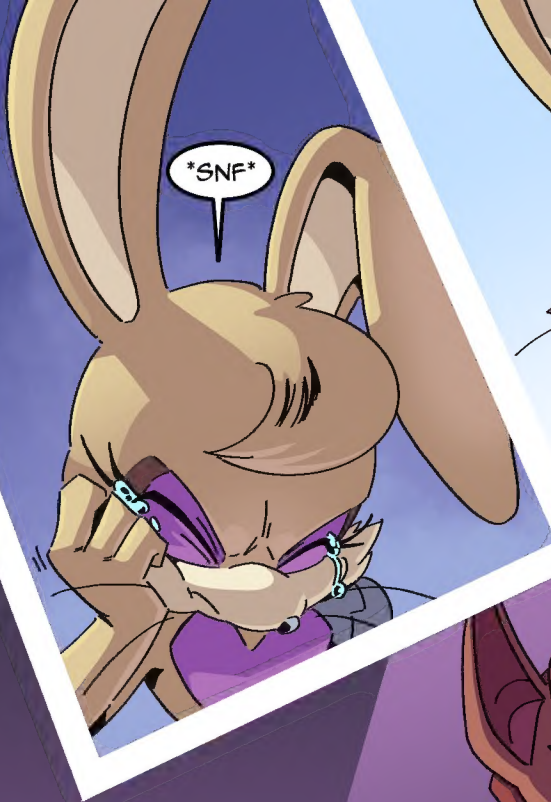
WITH SNIVELY N'
NAUGUS RUNNIN' AROUND,
N' CHAOS EMERALDS N'
GUARDIANS N' ALL SORTS
O' NEW BAD STUFF ROLLIN'
ON TOP OF US....

...IT'S MADE
ME REALIZE...I
CAN'T GO BACK
T'NORMAL.
NOT YET.



NOT WHILE WE
STILL *NEED*
ME T'BE...
LIKE *THIS*.

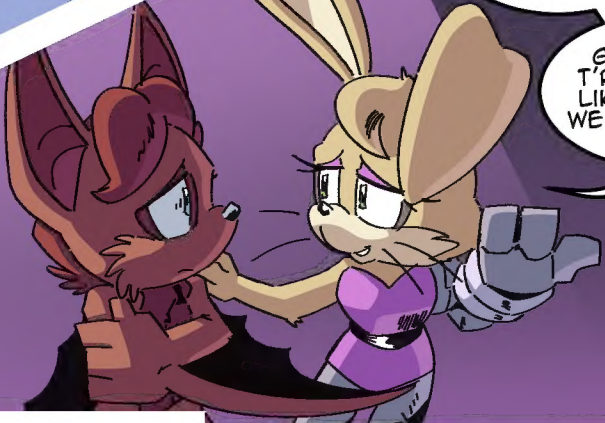




SNF



NOW C'MON,
SUGAH-BAT...
WE CAN'T STAND
'ROUND HERE
MOPIN' ALL
NIGHT LONG.



WE'VE
GOT A LOT
T'REPORT, 'N'
LIKE YA SAID,
WE GOTTA KEEP
MOVIN'.

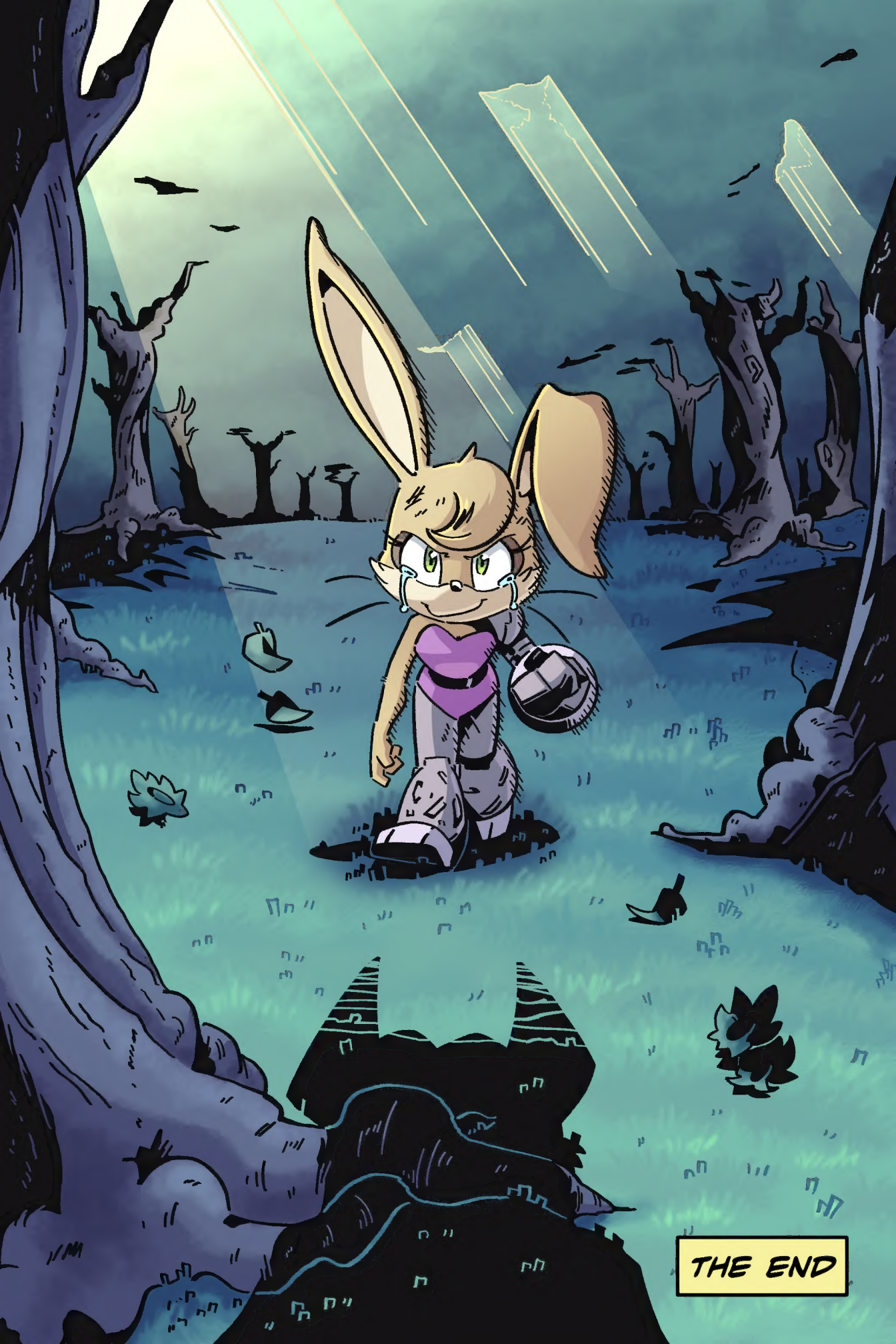


WE
KEEP MOVIN'
FORWARD.



...RIGHT.





THE END